

THE LEADER FOR BIRD OBSERVATORIES

MAR 7 1944

# COUNTRY LIFE

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FEBRUARY 1944

ONE SHILLING & SIXPENCE



THE LEADER FOR BIRD OBSERVATORIES  
WICK HALL NEAR CARNFORTH, LANCASHIRE

J. Hardman

## AUCTIONS

**A**NTIQUE OR MODERN (advantageous to Executors, Trustees, and Private Owners).—Very GOOD PRICES ASSURED for Antique and Modern Household Furniture, Silver, Jewellery, Pictures, Books, Porcelain, etc., at the weekly Auction Sales of PHILLIPS, SON & NEALE, 7, Blenheim Street, New Bond Street (Established 1786). (Sales of the above property can also be promptly arranged by private treaty.) Tel.: Mayfair 2424. Ref. W.T.L. Auction announcements, *Daily Telegraph* every Monday. *The Times* every Tuesday.

**A**UCTION OF POSTAGE STAMPS. WEDNESDAY DAY at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. ASIA AND AFRICA. First Session: Ceylon, India, Br. Somaliland, Cape, Egypt and Gambia. Second Session: Gold Coast, Lagos, Rhodesia, St. Helena, Sierra Leone, S.W.A., Sudan and Togo. For sale by order of L. C. Elger, Esq., A. Grimwood, Esq., F. E. Patisson, Esq., A. H. Strutt, Esq., and others. February 23. EUROPE AND AMERICA—fine Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, German and Italian States, etc., U.S.A. and valuable S. AMERICANS. Catalogues 3d. each.—ROBSON LOWE, 50, Pall Mall, S.W.1. Abbey 4034.

**P**UTTICK & SIMPSON, LTD. will hold the following SALE BY AUCTION at their Galleries:

72, NEW BOND STREET, W.1. May 6/22. The SECOND PORTION of the WELL-KNOWN COLLECTION OF OLD ENGLISH POTTERY, etc., formed by the late LOUIS GAUTIER, Esq. (to be sold by Order of the Executors), towards end Feb. Catalogues of above Sale p.f. 3d. each (prepaid).

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FEBRUARY 21 and 22.—Postage Stamps of the World.

FEBRUARY 28 and 29.—The "WYLIE" Foreign Collection. Second day an attractive British Empire Sale.

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Telephone: Mayfair 0218 (3 lines).

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**B**AGS!—HANDBAG SERVICES COMPANY will overhaul and renovate your handbag. Finest craftsmanship. Send it for an estimate to 59, New Bond Street, W.1 (next door Fenwick's).

**B**LUE FOX for Sale, wonderful colour, new, £25. Magnificent pair of gloves, Foxes, un worn, £105. Seen West-End or approved against cash.—J.K.R.D., 39, St. James's St., London, S.W.1.

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**C**ARDS.—A REMINDER! The original HAPPY FAMILY cards with all the old favourites, Bones the Butcher, Potts the Painter, Soot the Sweep, etc., are still published at 3/3. Obtainable from all good stores, sports shops, etc., or direct at 3/- post fr. from JOHN JAQUES & SON, LTD. Thornton Heath, Surrey.

**C**ARS WANTED. SPIKINS, Heath Road, Twickenham, require to purchase at once one American car over 16 h.p. and one 8-12 h.p. Saloon. Cars must be 1938 or 1939 models and mileage under 20,000. Tel.: Popesgrove 1035.

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**C**IGARS for Victory celebrations, imported Cigars, Havana, Jamaican, Burmese, Canadian, Dutch, German, American and British, offered.—EUROCLYDON, Drybrook, Glos.

**C**LICKS. Watches, Jewellery, Clockwork Controllers, Gramophones, etc. Repaired by experienced workmen. Enquiries welcomed.—HUGHES (Ground Floor), 58, Victoria St., S.W.1. Tel.: VICTORIA 0134.

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# COUNTRY LIFE

VOL. XCV. No. 2456

FEBRUARY 11, 1944

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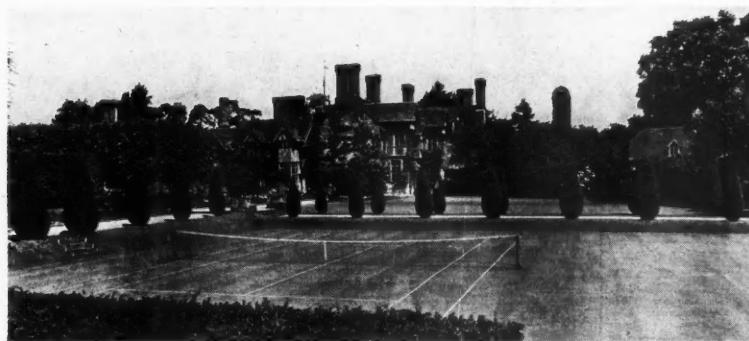
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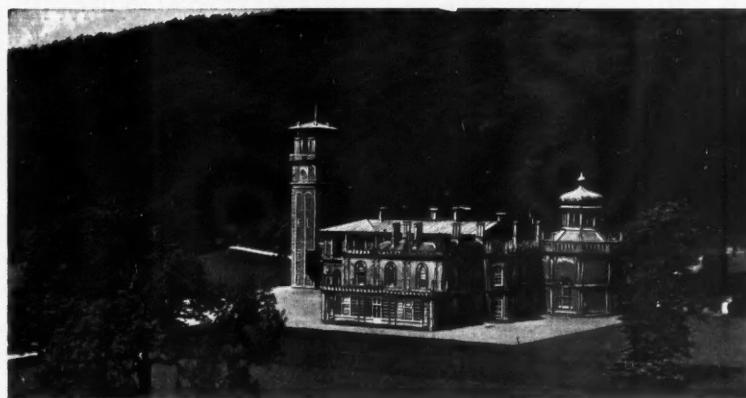
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*A mile from railway station, 2 miles from a small town, and under 10 miles from Lewes.*



**A ATTRACTIVE OLD RESIDENCE.** Restored and modernised just before the war, occupying a lovely position with good views. 3 reception rooms, excellent domestic offices (including staff sitting room and pantry), 6 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms. Main electricity. Central heating. Fitted basins in 3 bedrooms. Garage. Total area is 20 ACRES, including kitchen garden, paddock and woodland.

TO BE LET FURNISHED. MODERATE RENT.

Owner's Agents: WINKWORTH & CO., 48, Curzon Street, Mayfair, London, W.1.

### WARWICKSHIRE

*In the centre of the Warwickshire Hunt, 1½ miles from the railway station and 9 miles from Stratford-on-Avon.*

### A WELL-APPOINTED COUNTRY HOUSE

*Occupying a very beautiful position 400 ft. above sea level and commanding beautiful views.*

Approached by a drive and contains: drawing room, 27 ft. 6 ins. by 20 ft.; dining room, 19 ft. by 20 ft.; writing room, 16 ft. by 15 ft.; business room, 12 ft. by 11 ft.; excellent domestic offices; 8 best bedrooms; 4 best bathrooms; 4 servants' bedrooms and servants' bathroom. Main electric light. Water pumped by electricity. Septic tank drainage. Central heating. Fitted basins (h. & c.) in all bedrooms.

Garages for 5 cars and stabling consisting of 14 loose boxes in one yard and 3 boxes in another yard.

Men's accommodation at the stables and a modern cottage will be included.

PLEASURE GROUNDS INEXPENSIVE TO MAINTAIN.

KITCHEN GARDEN WITH 2 TENNIS COURTS, AND LAND, IN ALL

FOR SALE WITH ABOUT 70 ACRES

Particulars and Orders to View of the Agents: Messrs. WINKWORTH & CO., 48, Curzon Street, Mayfair, London, W.1.

### COTSWOLD HILLS

800 ft. up in beautiful country.

**A MODERN HOUSE** on a hill commanding beautiful views. For Sale Freehold with early possession. 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, panelled drawing and dining rooms, study and excellent offices. "Aga" cooker, main electric light, basins with h. & c. water in all bedrooms. Central heating. Stabling (boxes). Garage. Partly walled garden and lawns.

IN ALL ABOUT 60 ACRES

Particulars of the Sole Agents: WINKWORTH & CO., 48, Curzon Street, Mayfair, London, W.1.

# KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

ADJOINING THE GREEN BELT AND COMMANDING EXTENSIVE VIEWS

In an elevated position on the Herts/Middlesex Borders with ample travelling facilities. Golf, etc.



AN ATTRACTIVE FREEHOLD RESIDENCE on two floors only with pleasing elevations in red brick, tile hung upper part, half-timbered gables and tiled roof.

It is approached by a drive and contains: hall, 4 reception rooms (one with oak parquet floor), sun lounge, cloakroom, domestic offices, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

All main services. Telephone.

Two garages.  
Stable and ample outbuildings.

THE GROUNDS include terrace, lawns, flower garden, greenhouses, fruit trees and paddocks. About 3½ ACRES. FOR SALE WITH VACANT POSSESSION.



Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1. (40,706)

## BEACONSFIELD

About 10 minutes from Village and Station but in a quiet unrivalled position in the best part of the district.

ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY RESIDENCE with rough-cast exterior and tiled roof, approached by a gravelled sweep. The house is excellently planned, in first-class order and all the rooms are sunny. Entrance porch, hall, 3 reception rooms, loggia, domestic offices, maids' sitting-room, 6 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms.

Complete Central Heating. All Main Services. Telephone.

Principal Rooms have Parquet and Hardwood Flooring. Garage. Beautiful matured Grounds absolutely secluded, extending to about 1 ACRE FOR SALE FREEHOLD with immediate vacant possession.

Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1. (40,695)

## WEST SUSSEX COAST

Within a few minutes of the sea.

### FOR SALE WITH POSSESSION AFTER THE WAR

A WELL-APPOINTED MODERN HOUSE built of brick, rough-cast, and having tiled roof. Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, 7 bed and dressing rooms, bathroom.

Companies' Electric Light, Gas and Water. Main Drainage. Garage.

Greenhouse and Outbuildings.

Very well arranged Garden of about 1 ACRE with lawns, kitchen garden, fruit trees, etc. Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1. (37,624)

## SURREY

In a favoured residential neighbourhood. Under 10 minutes' walk from Station with service to Waterloo in about 35 minutes.

GOLF ON SEVERAL FAMOUS COURSES.

AN ATTRACTIVE HOUSE, built of brick and tile and partly rough-cast, in a quiet situation. It is in good order and contains:

3 reception rooms, cloakroom, domestic offices with maids' sitting-room, 8 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms, box room.

All Main Services.



Double garage with room over.

THE GROUNDS include lawn, formal and rock gardens, fruit and vegetable gardens, range of glass, etc. In all

### JUST UNDER 1½ ACRES

#### FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1. (40,685)

Telegrams:  
Galleries, Weso, London

Reading 4441  
Regent 0293/3377

# NICHOLAS

Established 1882

1, STATION ROAD, READING; 4, ALBANY COURT YARD, PICCADILLY, W.1

## NEWBURY DISTRICT

500 ft. above sea level. Magnificent views over three counties.

### FOR SALE

A FASCINATING PROPERTY FROM THE DESIGNS OF THE LATE SIR EDWIN LUTVENS, BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED AND STANDS IN CHARMING GROUNDS WITH GARDEN INEXPENSIVE OF UPKEEP.

Accommodation comprises lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, 14 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Loggia. Excellent domestic offices.

DOUBLE GARAGE. ELECTRIC LIGHTING. CENTRAL HEATING. LODGE ENTRANCE.

The beautiful and well-timbered Gardens include Double Tennis Lawn, Terraced and Rose Garden, Orchard and Pond, etc.

**ALSO MEADOWLAND, IN ALL 28 ACRES**  
POSSESSION MARCH, 1944.

Full particulars from the Sole Agent: Messrs. NICHOLAS, 1, Station Road, Reading (Tel. 4441, 2 lines); and 4, Albany Court Yard, Piccadilly, W.1.

## ON THE DORSET AND DEVON BORDERS

2½ miles from Lyme Regis and 4 from Axminster. 25 from Exeter and Taunton.

### FOR SALE IN THREE LOTS

A FIRST-CLASS STOCK FARM  
(the Home of a famous Attested Herd of Ayrshires)

EXTENDING TO 436 ACRES  
WITH VACANT POSSESSION ON THE 25TH MARCH

In addition to the FARMHOUSE there are 2 COTTAGES (a further 2 cottages rented). The MODEL COWHOUSES provide standings for 96 head. Company's water is laid on to the buildings with water bowls and to many of the fields. The farm is in a high state of cultivation, practically all is ploughed—there are some 110 acres of new leys. Lot 1 comprises the house, model cowhouses and buildings with about 270 acres with unusually extensive road frontages, which

Messrs. NICHOLAS, in conjunction with Messrs. THIMBLEBY AND SHORLAND will SELL by AUCTION (unless sold as a whole by Private Treaty in the meanwhile) towards the end of FEBRUARY, 1944.

Full particulars may be had of: Messrs. THIMBLEBY & SHORLAND, 32 Friar Street, Reading; and of Messrs. NICHOLAS, 1, Station Road, Reading.

44, ST. JAMES'S PLACE, S.W.1

# JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK

AGENTS FOR THE HOME COUNTIES, THE SHIRES, AND SPORTING COUNTIES GENERALLY

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## THREE HOURS FROM LONDON

XVII<sup>th</sup> CENTURY COUNTRY RESIDENCE of considerable character, modernised and in beautiful order, situated in a magnificently timbered park, with south-westerly aspect and commanding exceptionally fine distant views. 500 ACRES (250 acres in hand). 11 Cottages. 2 Farmhouses (one vacant soon). The fine old residence, amidst lovely grounds, contains: 4 sitting rooms, 12 bed and dressing rooms, and 4 bathrooms. Main electricity. Central heating. This really charming small estate is for SALE by the Sole Agents: JAMES STYLES AND WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, London, S.W.1, and who thoroughly recommend it from personal knowledge. (L.R.20,616)

## WEST SUSSEX COAST

For sale with possession after war.

Income £200 per annum. £5,250, reasonable offer considered. Dating from eighteenth century. Features: Queen Anne staircase, oak paneling, galleried hall. Near village and bus service. Hall and 3 sitting rooms, 8 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms. All modern conveniences. Cottage. Garage and other buildings. Particularly attractive gardens, meadow, etc. About 6 ACRES in all. Owner's Sole Agents: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. (L.R.18,143)

## SOUTH DEVON

OLD-FASHIONED STONE-BUILT COUNTRY RESIDENCE, near golf and sea. Lovely views. Hall and 2 sitting rooms, cloakroom, 5 bedrooms (basins), bathroom. Companies' water, electricity and power. Central heating. Cottage. Garage for several cars. Lovely garden with tennis court. Paddock. Bus service near by. £4,500, or very close offer. Post-war occupation. Now let furnished to private gentleman. JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. (L.R.20,581)

## WEST KENT

An hour from London.

165 ACRES 2 Cottages. \$10,250. Vacant possession of residence and some of the land. Sporting rights in hand. 4 sitting rooms, 9 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms. Main electricity. Central heating. Main water. Oak-beamed barn. Stabling and garage. AN ATTRACTIVE PROPOSITION AT A MOST MODERATE PRICE.

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In a pretty village, on a bus route, 1½ miles from a market town and station and surrounded by a walled garden of AN ACRE in extent, which has been kept in excellent order. Lining hall and 2 sitting rooms, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, maids' sitting room, 2 staircases, parquet floors. Independent hot water. Central heating. Main electricity. Company's water. House in first-rate order. Early vacant possession. PRICE FREEHOLD £5,500. (Two cottages can be purchased in addition with probable possession of one in near future.)

Owner's Agents: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, London, S.W.1. (L.R.20,638)

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Convenient for bus service and railway station, with excellent links to London. Property is in first-rate order. 12 sitting rooms, 12 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. All main services. About 20 ACRES.

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THE FORMER HOME OF A FAMOUS NOVELIST  
**EWELL, SURREY**

Absolute seclusion in a peaceful position only 12 miles from Town and barely 5 minutes' walk from station.



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# HAMPTON & SONS

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Regent 8222 (15 lines)

Telegrams: "Selanet, Piccy, London."



## WELL-BUILT RESIDENCE

approached from semi-private road by Carriage Sweep and planned on  
**TWO FLOORS ONLY**  
Hall, 2 reception rooms, music or billiard room, 7 bedrooms, dressing room,  
3 bathrooms, etc.  
**ALL MAIN SERVICES GARAGE FOR 2 CARS.**

**DELIGHTFUL GARDEN OF ABOUT 1 ACRE FOR SALE FREEHOLD £6,000**

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## COTSWOLD MANOR HOUSE

650 feet up with a lovely view.

### FOR SALE TOGETHER WITH ABOUT 69 ACRES



Apply: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. (Tel.: REG. 8222.)

BRANCH OFFICES: WIMBLEDON COMMON, S.W.19. (WIM. 0081.) BISHOP'S STORTFORD (243).

# CLASSIFIED PROPERTIES

(1/6 per line.)

Min. 3 lines.)

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**SPARSHOLT and WESTCOTT** about 4 miles from Wantage, Berks, 14 miles from Swindon, and 20 miles from Oxford, consisting of **TWO VALE AND HILL FARMS** known as Sparsholt and Westcott Farms, 23 COTTAGES, WOODLANDS AND PLANTATIONS, having a total area of approximately 1,705 ACRES AT A RENT ROLL OF £965 15s. 4d., being part of the KINGSTON LISLE ESTATE belonging to Mrs. William Murray who has given instructions to

### HOBBS & CHAMBERS

to offer the above for SALE by AUCTION, if not previously sold by PRIVATE TREATY, at THE TOWN HALL, WANTAGE, on WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1944, at 3 p.m.

Copies of the Sale Particulars with Plan and Conditions of Sale may be obtained, in due course, from W. C. C. Weetman, Esq., Chartered Land Agent and Surveyor, 52, Brook Street, W.1, or Messrs. Devonshire and Co., Solicitors, 35 Old Jewry, E.C.2, or the Auctioneers, at Farthingdon, Berks, or Cirencester, Glos.

### LEICESTERSHIRE

SALE of VALUABLE AGRICULTURAL and SPORTING PROPERTY, comprising a portion of THE BELVOIR ESTATE situated in the Parishes of SPROXTON, SALTBURY, BESCBAY and STONESBY, extending to a total area of 4,780 ACRES or thereabouts. To be SOLD by AUCTION by

### ESCRITT & BARRELL

at the ESTATE SALE ROOMS, ELMER HOUSE, GRANTHAM, on WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 1944.

Particulars and Plans now with the printers and will be available (price 5s.) in due course from the Auctioneers, Elmer House, Grantham, or Messrs. Dawson & Co., Solicitors, 2, New Square, Lincoln's Inn, London, W.C.2.

### WIRGINIASHIRE

Convenient for Birmingham, Coventry, Rugby and Leamington. A choice Residential and Agricultural Estate known as "THE ELMS," DUNCHURCH, with first-class Gentleman's Residence, containing Hall, 3 Reception Rooms, 8 Bedrooms, 3 Secondary Bedrooms, 3 well appointed Bathrooms, convenient Domestic Offices, Main Water and Electricity, Telephone, Garages, Stabling, Farmery, Gardens and Grounds, together with 5 Cottages, and first-class Pasture and Arable Land, in all about 134 ACRES. VACANT POSSESSION. SALE BY AUCTION at RUGBY, FEBRUARY 21, 1944.

Particulars and plans from Messrs.

### HOWKINS & SONS

12, Albert Street, Rugby (Tel. 3059), and at Northampton.

## FOR SALE

**BUCKS.** Wraysbury district. Small Regency House entirely restored. 4 bed and dressing rooms, 2 reception, 2 tiled bathrooms, 2 large storerooms, apple room. Garage, out-buildings. Central heating. Old walled garden. Several greenhouses, including famous old vines. About 3 Acres. Immediate possession. Freehold £4,750.—E. & S. ESTATES, 11, Waterloo Place, S.W.1 (Whitehall 8335).

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**MID-SOMERSET.** Beautifully appointed Hillside Residence, glorious South prospect. 3 reception, billiards, cloaks, 10 bed and dressing rooms, fitted bath; electricity, gas, co.'s water, central heating; garage, out-buildings, 3 large greenhouses; drive approach: nearly 4 acres. £5,500.—Sole Agents, MASTERS AND CO., Weston-super-Mare.

**NORFOLK BROADS.** Charming Georgian-style Residence in delightfully timbered grounds of 17 acres, intersected by boating river, with wet and dry boathouses. 3 reception (2 about 30 ft. long), 6 principal bedrooms (5 with fixed basins), 2 maid's bedrooms, 2 bathrooms (h. & c.). Electrically pumped water. Modern stabling and garage accommodation. Gardener's cottage. Freehold £5,000. Adjoining farm of 19½ acres (let yearly) could be purchased if required. —WOODOCK & SON, Ipswich.

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## WEYBRIDGE, SURREY

1 mile from station. Good views. Near golf course.

### SUBSTANTIALLY BUILT RESIDENCE APPROACHED BY A DRIVE

Entrance hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, loggia, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, maids' sitting room.

ALL MAIN SERVICES GARAGE FOR 2 CARS. STABLING

THE GROUNDS ARE WELL LAID OUT WITH LAWNS, LILY POOL, ROSE GARDEN.

IN ALL ABOUT 1½ ACRES

PRICE FREEHOLD £4,500

JUST IN THE MARKET



Particulars from: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. (Tel.: REG. 8222.) (S.51,00)

## A RESIDENCE OF MERIT SURREY, NEAR FARNHAM

In delightful woodland surroundings. Quiet and secluded.

### FASCINATING HOUSE WITH PERIOD FEATURES

8 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception, Modern offices. Main services. Central heating.

2 GARAGES

Delightful Grounds with Tennis Lawn

IN ALL ABOUT

8 ACRES

PRICE ON APPLICATION



Personally inspected and recommended. Apply: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. (Tel.: REG. 8222.) (S.50,070)

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*Amidst lovely surroundings on the Southern slopes of the Mendip Hills*  
**A BEAUTIFUL STONE-BUILT JACOBEAN REPLICA**

Erected about 50 years ago regardless of expense and to the designs of a well-known architect. 4 reception, billiards room, 11 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Main electricity and gas. Central heating.

**5 Cottages. Stabling. Garage.**

Charming well-timbered gardens sloping to a river. 2 lakes (one stocked with trout). Hard and grass tennis courts. Cricket ground, with pavilion. Meadowland. In all

**ABOUT 17 ACRES****FOR SALE FREEHOLD**

Full details from:  
OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,371)

**BUCKS**

*Between Aylesbury and Buckingham, convenient for Main Line Station to London.*

Sheltered situation in rural country—For Sale  
**AN UP-TO-DATE COUNTRY HOUSE OF CHARACTER**

Main electricity and water. Central heating. Lounge hall, 3 reception, dozen bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Hard Stabling. Farmery. 3 Cottages.

Very Pleasant Gardens. Excellent Pasture. Hard Tennis Court. Squash Court.

**24 ACRES**

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER. Inspected and highly recommended. (16,730)

**DORSET**

*Delightfully situated in a pretty village on a bus route about 1½ miles from Dorchester*

**AN ATTRACTIVE OLD HOUSE**

All on two floors, with lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, 2 baths.

Main water. Electric light and power.

**Modern Drainage.**

**Garage for 2 Cars. Outbuildings.**

Well stocked Walled Garden all in splendid order and including vegetable garden.

**ABOUT 1 ACRE****FOR SALE FREEHOLD**

2 Cottages both at present let could be purchased if required.

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28b, ALBEMARLE ST.,  
PICCADILLY, W.1**WILTS-GLOS BORDERS**

*In a much favoured district, a few miles from Cirencester.*  
**DELIGHTFUL STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE OF COTSWOLD TYPE**

4 reception, 11 bed and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms.

Main electricity and water. Central heating.

**Model Farmery**

Delightful gardens, excellent pasture. In all

**ABOUT 40 ACRES****FOR SALE FREEHOLD**

The Property is at present under requisition by the War Department.

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,156)

**WANTED**

**MESSRS. OSBORN & MERCER** have a very considerable number of enquiries from buyers anxious to purchase small or medium size residential properties in the country, particularly the HOME COUNTIES.

Recent advertising of a number of such places (mostly sold very quickly) has left MESSRS. OSBORN & MERCER with many disappointed applicants, consequently they ask owners who would be interested in taking advantage of what is, without doubt, a first-class opportunity of effecting a satisfactory sale of their property, to communicate with them, giving full particulars and, if possible, photographs.

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LONDON, W.1.

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Grosvenor  
1032-33**A SELECTION OF FINE CHARACTER HOUSES JUST AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT MODERATE PRICES AND WITH POSSESSION ON COMPLETION****FAMOUS SOUTHERN SPA***One hour from London***BEAUTIFUL ASHDOWN FOREST***Tunbridge Wells, within 7 miles.*

**STONE-BUILT TUDOR MANOR**, 3 reception, 8 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Main water. Central heating. Silverite gas lighting (main electricity later). Garages. Stabling. Lovely grounds and paddock. About 6 ACRES. TO LET FURNISHED AT LOW RENT. FREEHOLD MIGHT BE SOLD

Particulars from RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

**VIEWS OF CHILTERN HILLS.** Easy reach Princes Risborough. **FASCINATING OLD COTTAGE** (A.D. 1670); restored and enlarged 1939. 2 large reception, 4 bedrooms, bathroom. Main electricity. Artisan well water (pumped automatically). Garage. LOVELY GARDEN. Nearly HALF AN ACRE. FREEHOLD £3,500 (or close offer)

Particulars from RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above

**NEAR POPULAR SOUTHERN SPA.** One hour express rail. **TUDOR MANOR HOUSE**, restored at great cost. 3 reception, 6 bedrooms, bathroom. Electricity and water. Central heating. Stabling. Garage, model farmery. Fully matured gardens and paddock. OVER 3 ACRES. £6,000 (or offer).

Particulars from RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

**LONG FRONTRAGE TO RIVER THAMES.** Henley one mile. Beautiful views. Private fishing rights. **PICTURESQUE HOUSE**, raised well above floor level. 3 reception, 7 bedrooms, large bathroom. Main services. Garage (rooms over). Matured gardens. Boathouse and backwater stream. 2 ACRES. FREEHOLD £5,500

Particulars from RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

**LONG FRONTRAGE TO RIVER THAMES.** Henley one mile. Beautiful views. Private fishing rights. **PICTURESQUE HOUSE**, raised well above floor level. 3 reception, 7 bedrooms, large bathroom. Main services. Garage (rooms over). Matured gardens. Boathouse and backwater stream. 2 ACRES. FREEHOLD £5,500

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F. L. MERCER & CO.  
SACKVILLE HOUSE, 40, PICCADILLY, W.1.

Regent 2481

**ELEVATED POSITION ABOVE TUNBRIDGE WELLS**

**FIRST-CLASS MODERN HOUSE**, secluded and standing in its own grounds. Fitted regardless of cost. 3 reception, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. All main services, 4-car garage. Productive garden; all varieties soft and hard fruit. **2 ACRES. £5,750.**—F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

**BETWEEN HASLEMERE and FARNHAM WEST SURREY. 1 HOUR LONDON. £5,000 WITH 12 ACRES**

**ATTRACTIVE SMALL HOUSE** built 1936. Tudor style. Lounge hall, 2 reception, 5 bedrooms, bathroom. Main services. Garage.—F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

**CLIFTON, SOMERSET**

Near Downes and Avon Gorge  
**STONE-BUILT DETACHED RESIDENCE**, 3 reception, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, billiards room. Central heating. Garage. Garden  $\frac{1}{2}$  ACRE. Including tennis court. £5,000. Post-war possession.—F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

**ADJOINING FAMOUS SURREY GOLF LINKS***Entirely rural, yet only 14 miles London*

**A SHOW PLACE IN MINIATURE.** 3 reception, 6 bedrooms (fitted basins), 3 luxury bathrooms. Central heating. Main services. All electric. 2-car garage. Charming gardens. Hard tennis court. **2½ ACRES.** Although £10,000 is asked, it represents a loss to owner, who is leaving for America.—F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

**WILTSHIRE BEAUTY SPOT.** Near Chippenham PRETTY XVITH CENTURY COTTAGE, 3 reception, 5 bedrooms (fitted basins), bathroom. Central heating. Main services. Charming garden  $\frac{1}{2}$  ACRES. £3,500.—F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

**CORNWALL BEAUTY SPOT. 30 ACRES**  
*Near Tintagel* £3,500

**PICTURESQUE OLD HOUSE**, 3 reception, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Central heating. Modern conveniences. Garage. Farmery. Well-timbered grounds, orchard, paddocks. Shooting and fishing available.—F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

**BUCKS-NORTHANTS BORDERS***Close to village and stations*

**A GEORGIAN HOUSE**, long drive approach. 3 reception, 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Electricity, water and central heating connected. Garage, Cottage. Lovely gardens, tennis court, and grass paddocks. **32 ACRES.** 6 Cottages in village (let). £5,500.—F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

**EASY REACH NORTHWOOD 30 MINUTES N.W.**

**SEVENTEENTH CENTURY COTTAGE RESIDENCE**, 3 reception, 5 bedrooms, bathroom. Central heating. Main services. Garage. Lovely gardens, orchard. **2½ ACRES.** Just available. £4,000. Immediate possession.—F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

**OVERLOOKING RICHMOND GOLF COURSE***Near Ham Common*

**LOVELY OLD QUEEN ANNE PERIOD HOUSE**, 3 reception, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main services. Garage. Charming old gardens. **1½ ACRES.** £6,000.—F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

184, BROMPTON ROAD,  
LONDON, S.W.3Kensington  
0152-3**GENTLEMAN'S HIGH-CLASS OXFORDSHIRE FARM****FAVOURITE PART HEYTHROP COUNTRY****NEARLY 450 ACRES**

Highly cultivated lands. Superior stone-built residence in excellent position with views. 3 reception, 5 bedrooms, electric light, etc. Excellent buildings. Ballif's house and cottages.

**FOR SALE FREEHOLD AT REASONABLE PRICE**

Immediate possession. Recommended. BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY, Brompton Road, S.W.3. (Ken. 0152.)

## BENTALL, HORSLEY &amp; BALDRY

**FAVOURITE NEWBURY GENTLEMAN'S UNIQUE RESIDENTIAL & PEDIGREE STOCK ESTATE.** OPPORTUNITY OCCURS to purchase a most attractive Estate such as is rarely obtainable in this sought after locality approaching **250 ACRES**, mostly grass with ample supply of water, being intersected by a small trout stream, and carrying a herd of T.T. pedigree cattle. Excellent residence in nice grounds, containing 3 reception, 7 bedrooms, bath. Main electric light and power and company's water. Good buildings. Tubular fittings. Ballif's house and 4 cottages. **FREEHOLD FOR SALE AT REASONABLE PRICE** with possession in June. Recommended. BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY, 184, Brompton Road, S.W.3. (Ken. 0152.)

**SO VERY PICTURESQUE**

It was the subject of a Cover Photograph in "Country Life."

**THIS OLD-WORLD COTTAGE**, in a pretty village near Bury St. Edmunds. Full of oak beams and floors, open fireplaces, etc. Has 2 reception rooms, 3 bedrooms, bathroom. Main electricity. Garage.

**NICE LITTLE GARDEN.****IMMEDIATE POSSESSION.**

**FIRST OFFER OF £1,500 FREEHOLD SECURES**

Sole Agents: BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY, 184, Brompton Road, S.W.3. (Ken. 0152.)

**ROSS-ON-WYE, HEREFORD (3 miles from Wye Valley. OTTER HUNTING. FISHING.)**

600 feet up. Sandy soil. Lovely climate. Beautiful position, not isolated. Large hall, 2 reception, 4 bedrooms, bathroom. Absolutely labour-saving, perfect condition throughout. Polished cedar wood floors. All washerless chromium sanitary fittings. Central heating. Electric light. Septic drainage. Garage.

**STANDING IN GARDENS OF 1 ACRE**

Rates only £14 p.a.  
**IMMEDIATE POSSESSION.**  
**FREEHOLD £3,600**  
Immediate inspection advised.  
BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY, as above.

Grosvenor 1553  
(4 lines)

# GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1778)

25, MOUNT ST., GROSVENOR SQ., W.1.

Hobart Place, Eaton Sq.,  
68, Victoria St.,  
Westminster, S.W.1

## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

*On the Thames near Marlow.*

**THIS FINE GEORGIAN RESIDENCE**, large hall, 12 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms. Ample offices. Main electric light and water. Modern drainage. 2 modern cottages. Garages and useful buildings. Old established ground. Kitchen garden and paddock. Picturesque boathouse on the Thames. In all about 9 ACRES. **FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION.**  
All particulars of: GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1. (A.6076)

5, MOUNT ST.,  
LONDON, W.1

## EAST SUSSEX

*7 miles Robertsbridge Station.*

**ORIGINALLY AN EARLY TUDOR "YEOMAN'S HALL" OF THE LATE XVth CENTURY** THOROUGHLY RENOVATED AND MODERNISED. 2 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, bathroom. Electric light. Modern drainage. Garage. Picturesque grounds with tennis court and well-stocked orchard. **About 4 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD.** Particulars from: CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W.1. (16,404)

# CURTIS & HENSON

Grosvenor 3131 (3 lines)  
Established 1875

## SUSSEX

*In Ashdown Forest. 35 miles to London.*

**A MODERNISED HOUSE.** On a Southern slope in woodland surroundings, with extensive views. 4 reception rooms, 10 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Company's water and electricity. Central heating. Garage. 2 cottages. Wood and water gardens.

### 12 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Details from: CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W.1. (13,758)

## SURREY

*2½ miles Oxted Station.*

**A GEORGIAN RESIDENCE** secluded, near a small town and adjacent to landed estates. 4 reception rooms, 14 bedrooms, bathroom, main drainage. Company's water. Electricity. Garages. Stabling and outbuildings. Grounds with woodland walks. Fertile and partly walled kitchen garden on southern slope. Two pasture fields.

### ABOUT 12 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Details from: CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W.1. (16,134)

## SURREY

*Near Sutton and Cheam Stations. Half an hour by train to London.*

**EXCELLENTLY DESIGNED IN THE TUDOR STYLE.** 3 reception, 9 bed and dressing rooms (6 with h. & c.), 2 bathrooms, 2 staircases. Co.'s electricity, gas and water. Central heating. Garage. Tennis court. Orchard and kitchen garden. **FOR SALE FREEHOLD.** Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W.1. (16,308)

STATION FRONT,  
MAIDENHEAD

# CYRIL JONES

F.A.I., F.V.A.

Maidenhead  
2033

FOR POST-WAR OCCUPATION AS PRIVATE RESIDENCE. Would make First-class COUNTRY CLUB  
**FOR SALE AT ONLY £8,500**

**THIS BEAUTIFUL ELIZABETHAN MANOR HOUSE**

REMARKABLY ATTRACTIVE GARDENS, INCLUDING PRODUCTIVE KITCHEN GARDENS, ORCHARD, RANGE OF GLASS AND PADDOCK

ENCLOSED ON TWO SIDES BY WONDERFUL ELIZABETHAN WALL AND BOUNDED BY A TROUT STREAM.

**TOTAL AREA ABOUT 10 ACRES**

Highly recommended by Owner's Agent: CYRIL JONES, F.A.I., F.V.A., Station Front, Maidenhead. (Tel.: 2033)

Delightfully placed in a lovely Dorsetshire village, in favourite sporting neighbourhood, between Dorchester and Weymouth.

In wonderful state of preservation.

Contains a dozen bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fine suite of reception rooms.

### CONSTANT HOT WATER.

CENTRAL HEATING. MAIN ELECTRICITY AND TELEPHONE. GARAGES. STABLING. COTTAGE.

## ON SOUTHERN SLOPE OF CHILTERN HILLS

*300 feet up with lovely views over the Thames Valley*

**This Charming Old-World Converted FARMHOUSE** contains: lounge 27ft. by 21ft. with gallery. Hall and 2 other reception rooms. Cloaks (h. & c.), 5 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. Main electricity. Gas. All conveniences. Garage and useful Outbuildings. Lovely old-world gardens, hard tennis court, orchard, paddock, in all 4½ ACRES. Very low outgoings. **FREEHOLD FOR SALE.** For full particulars apply: Sole Agent, CYRIL JONES, F.A.I., F.V.A., Station Front, Maidenhead. (Tel.: 2033.)

## TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley St., W.1

Grosvenor 2861.

Telegrams: "Cornishmen, London."

### COTSWOLD HILLS.

£6,500

**MOST ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE**, 8 bedrooms (5 fitted, b. & c.), 4 bathrooms, 3 reception. CENTRAL HEATING. ALL MAIN SERVICES. TELEPHONE. Garage. Stabling for 6. Rooms for man. Inexpensive gardens, kitchen garden, glasshouses, orchards.—TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (20,970)

### 7 ACRES

**MODERN GEORGIAN COUNTRY HOUSE.** 7 ACRES HERTS. Bus service to station (hour London). **FOR SALE. REALLY FIRST-CLASS RESIDENCE**, in excellent order. South aspect. Hall, cloakroom, 3-4 reception, 4 bathrooms, 6 bedrooms, dressing room. Main electricity and water. Central heating. Telephone. Large garage. Bungalow. Delightful gardens and orchard. Strongly recommended.—TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (21,492)

130 ACRES. £4,150.

POSSESSION

**NORTH DEVON. PICTURESQUE HOUSE DATING FROM XVIth CENTURY.** 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception. Bathing pool. Modern farm buildings. Stock and dairy land.—TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (21,494)

## CLIFTON, BRISTOL

REGENT STREET SALEROOMS (adjoining Clifton Post Office).

### SALE BY AUCTION OF

## The Well-known Collection of HORSE BRASSES

numbering upwards of 1,300, the property of A. H. TOD, deceased, and

### ABOUT 800 oz. SILVER

the property of Major R. H. WAY, which

**WILLIAM COWLIN & SON, LTD.** will SELL at the above Rooms on **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1944**, commencing at **2 p.m.** On view THURSDAY, February 17, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Morning of Sale. Auction and Estate Offices: 29, PRINCESS VICTORIA ST., CLIFTON, BRISTOL 8 (Tel.: 33044.) Telegrams: "Houses, Bristol."

Telegrams:  
"Wood, Agents, Wesso,  
London."

# JOHN D. WOOD & CO.

23, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

Mayfair 6341  
(10 lines)

FOR SALE WITH VACANT POSSESSION.

## A PRETTY PART OF EPPING FOREST

About  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile from Chingford Station and buses.

## ATTRACTIVE MODERN FREEHOLD RESIDENCE

Standing high and containing spacious hall, billiards room, dining room and smokeroom, all oak-panelled, excellent offices, 6 best bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 servants' bedrooms.

MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT, WATER, GAS AND DRAINAGE. GARAGE FOR 3 CARS.

## WELL LAID OUT GARDEN WITH LILY POOL

Inspected and recommended by JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (Tel.: Mayfair 6341.) (83,469)

## VENTWORTH, VIRGINIA WATER

### UNIQUE MODERN HOUSE

STANDING IN 5 ACRES

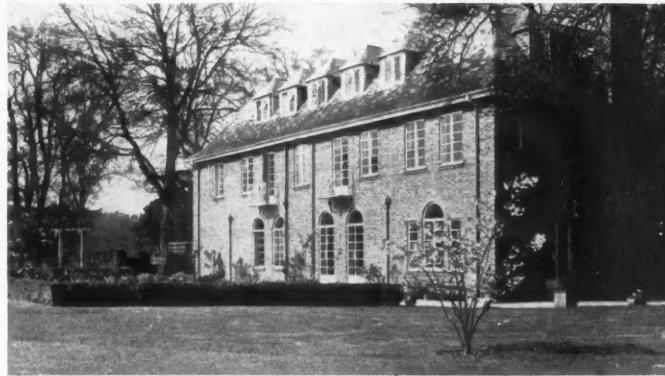
10 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 3 reception. Double garage. All main services.

BEAUTIFUL GARDEN AND WOODLAND.

CLOSE TO THE GOLF COURSE.

### TO BE SOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Inspected and recommended by JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, W.1  
(21,857)



## FAVOURITE PART OF SUFFOLK

Near Ipswich.

### THIS DELIGHTFUL RESTORED ENLARGED FARMHOUSE with about 130 ACRES TO BE SOLD FREEHOLD

Lounge, 3 sitting-rooms (parquet floor), 8-9 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING. WATER FROM DEEP BORE.  
EXCELLENT OUTBUILDINGS. FARMERY AND 2 COTTAGES.

Details from the Sole Agents: JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (83,359)

## BUCKS-MIDDLESEX BORDERS

25 minutes from Paddington.

### RUISLIP (Denham side)

CHARMING 17th-CENTURY TIMBER-FRAMED  
FARMHOUSE  
WITH SPACIOUS ROOMS RETAINING MANY ATTRACTIVE ORIGINAL  
FEATURES.  
3 reception, 4 to 5 bedrooms, bathroom. Central heating, all main services.  
LARGE GARAGE. EXCELLENT MATURED GARDEN OF ABOUT  
2 ACRES  
(INCLUDING ORCHARD, ROSE GARDEN, LAWNS, KITCHEN GARDEN),  
WHICH PROVIDES COMPLETE SECLUSION.

PRICE £4,250

Further particulars from the Agents: JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (Tel.: Mayfair 6341.) (10,926)

## FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO.

(Established 1799)

AUCTIONEERS. CHARTERED SURVEYORS. LAND AGENTS.  
29, FLEET STREET, LONDON, E.C.4

Telegrams:  
Farebrother, London

## ON THE BORDERS OF SURREY AND HAMPSHIRE

Excellent train service.

### MODERN HOUSE

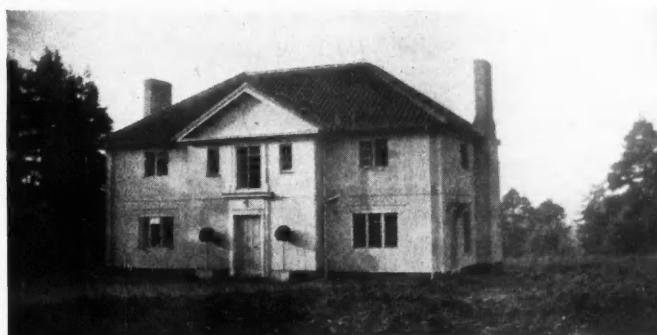
with beautiful views.

5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms

CONVENIENT OFFICES.

GARAGE.

MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT AND WATER.



WELL WOODED HEATHLANDS

EXTENDING TO ABOUT  
55 ACRES

AFFORDING MAGNIFICENT SITES FOR THE ERECTION OF HOUSES OF DISTINCTION

TO BE SOLD  
FREEHOLD

Further particulars from the Owner's Agents: FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO., 29, Fleet Street, E.C.4. (Tel.: CENTRAL 9344/5/6/7.)

TOTTENHAM COURT RD., W.1  
(Euston 7000)

## MAPLE & CO., LTD.

5, GRAFTON ST., MAYFAIR, W.1  
(Regent 4685)

### SURREY

650 ft. up with a pleasant view, about 40 minutes from Town with electric service.

### FOR SALE

THIS CHOICE HOUSE IN THE GEORGIAN STYLE approached by a long carriage drive with lodge at entrance and situate in beautiful park-like grounds of about

10 ACRES

Fine hall with oak floor, 4 reception rooms (2 panelled in Honduras mahogany), about 10 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, etc. Spacious garage, stabling and a nice cottage. Company's electricity, etc.

LAWNS, ROSE GARDENS, PICTURESQUE WOODLAND, PRODUCTIVE KITCHEN GARDEN, LARGE PADDOCK.

This property is strongly recommended by the Agents: MAPLE & Co., as above.



HIGH UP ON THE KENT AND SUSSEX BORDERS  
with a good view about 1 mile from the centre of a large town and station.

TO BE SOLD  
AN ATTRACTIVE HOUSE  
ON TWO FLOORS

Situated in a NICE GARDEN of nearly ONE ACRE  
Squint hall, dining room, drawing room, 23 ft. x 15 ft.,  
7 bed-rooms, bathroom, good offices, small sitting room for maids.

Company's electric light, etc.  
GOOD GARAGE, GARDENS INCLUDE LAWN WITH  
FOR TENNIS COURT, KITCHEN GARDEN, etc.  
Recommended by MAPLE & Co., as above.

23, MOUNT STREET,  
GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.1.

# WILSON & CO.

Telephone:  
Grosvenor 1441.

## SUSSEX, NEAR EAST GRINSTEAD



Sole Agents: WILSON & CO., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

### CHOICE ESTATE OF 83 ACRES with a remarkably beautiful house set within perfect old gardens

12 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 3 finely panelled reception rooms.  
Main electricity and water. Central heating. Garage for several cars.

HARD COURT. GOOD KITCHEN GARDEN.

PASTURE and WOODLAND.

### FOR SALE AT A MOST MODERATE PRICE

WITH POST-WAR OCCUPATION

INCOME OF £500 per annum, including contribution for garden upkeep.

A SMALL FARMERY and 5 COTTAGES IN HAND

LONG ROAD FRONTAGES

## WEST SUSSEX Between Guildford and Horsham



**FASCINATING XVTH CENTURY HOUSE** in lovely rural country. In splendid order, with electric light, central heating, etc. 3 reception, 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. MOST CHARMING GARDENS OF 3 ACRES WITH HARD COURT.

WOULD BE LET FURNISHED

Agents: WILSON & CO., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

WHITEHALL 8211  
Private Branch Exchange.

# KENINGTONS

CHARTERED SURVEYORS

Eagle House  
109/110, JERMYN STREET.  
LONDON, S.W.1.

## 'TWIXT MAIDENHEAD AND WINDSOR, BERKSHIRE FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL ESTATE ON OUTSKIRTS OF VILLAGE



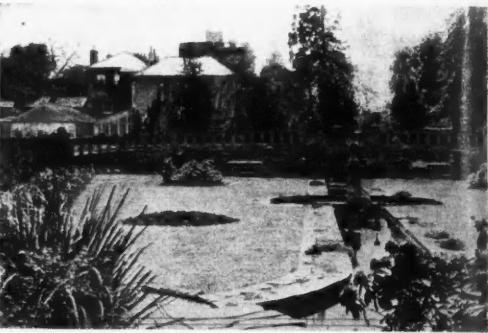
OVER 50 ACRES PARKLAND AND PLEASURE GROUNDS, well wooded, specimen trees, ornamental water, lily ponds, terrace walks, large orchard. Kitchen garden, etc. ALL BUILDINGS carefully maintained and modernised to give every convenience and comfort. Central heating. Main water and electricity.

£10,000 FREEHOLD

POSSESSION 3 MONTHS AFTER WAR

AN OPPORTUNITY TO SECURE A LOVELY RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY IN A MUCH SOUGHT-AFTER LOCALITY JUST IN THE MARKET FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 25 YEARS

COUPLED WITH EXCEPTIONAL POSSIBILITIES FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT. OVER 4,000 FEET FRONTAGE TO EXISTING ROADS



### OLD ENGLISH RESIDENCE,

4 reception, 15 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Kitchen and service quarters. Winter garden. Air Raid Shelter, etc.

### SECONDARY RESIDENCE,

2 reception, 2 bedrooms, bathroom. Kitchen, etc. Billiard room. Store, etc.

### FINE OUTBUILDINGS.

GARAGES. WORKSHOPS,  
GREENHOUSES, ETC.

2 COTTAGES.

MODEL FARM BUILDINGS.

## PARSONS, WELCH & COWELL 129, HIGH STREET, SEVENOAKS, KENT (Tel.: 36).

### KENT

In the best and highest part of Sevenoaks, 1½ miles from station.

### DELIGHTFUL MODERN HOUSE BUILT REGARDLESS OF COST



### FOR SALE WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Recommended by the Agents:  
PARSONS, WELCH & COWELL, 129, High Street, Sevenoaks, Kent. (Tel.: 36).

[CHOICELY APPOINTED AND WELL PLANNED ON TWO FLOORS.

Lounge hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.

Complete domestic offices, Companies' water, gas and electricity.

Central heating throughout.

Garage for 2 cars.

Fine 3-division Greenhouse.

Gardener's Cottage if required.

Delightfully timbered gardens of about 2½ ACRES

## WOOLLEY & WALLIS

AUCTIONEERS AND LAND AGENTS, SALISBURY. Tel.: 2491-2.

### SOUTH WILTS

Between Salisbury and Shaftesbury.

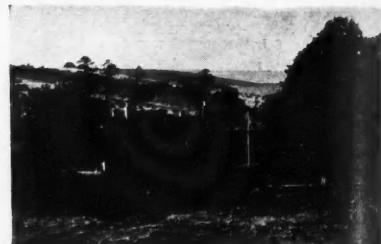
FOR SALE BY AUCTION AT AN EARLY DATE

WITH VACANT POSSESSION.

### THE OLD RECTORY FIFIELD, BAVANT

### XVIIth CENTURY STONE RESIDENCE

3 reception, 6 bedrooms.



FARMERY and 22 ACRES GRASS, ORCHARD and ARABLE (5 fenced and watered).

Particulars of Sale, 6d., from the Auctioneers, as above.

By Order of Executors.

Overlooking exquisite Village Green near Maidenhead.

## REGENCY PERIOD HOUSE

WITH PERIOD DECORATIONS

12 Bedrooms. 4 Bathrooms. 4 Reception Rooms.

Main electricity. Main water. Telephone. Central Heating.

GARAGES FOR 5 CARS. STABLING. COTTAGE.

GARDENS OF EXCEPTIONAL BEAUTY

In all about 9 ACRES

Particulars of Joint Agents:

HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington St., S.W.1, and GIDDYS, Maidenhead (Tel. E.)



## ESTATE

Kensington 1490

Telegrams:

"Estate, Harrods, London."

THREEQUARTERS OF A MILE TROUT FISHING

## NORTH HAMPSHIRE

Hour from London. Handy for station.



## CHARMING OLD MILL HOUSE

3 reception, 7 bed and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms, offices. Electric light. Company's water. Independent hot water supply. Central heating. Telephone, etc. Garage (4 cars.) Barn. Useful outbuildings.

BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS, intersected by trout stream affording fishing both banks.

## TO BE LET FURNISHED FOR LONG PERIOD

Inspected and strongly recommended by Sole Agents: HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1. (Tel.: Kensington 1490.)

c.4

62/64, BROMPTON ROAD, LONDON, S.W.1

## KNIGHTSBRIDGE HOUSE

62/64, BROMPTON ROAD, LONDON, S.W.1

## OFFICES

West Byfleet  
and Haslemere  
Offices

## GLORIOUS PULBOROUGH AND BILLINGHURST DISTRICT c.3



## CAPITAL RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL ESTATE

THE RESIDENCE IS ONE OF THE FINEST OLD FARMHOUSE TYPES IN THE COUNTY, has 4 reception, 10 bed, 3 bathrooms. Central heating. Electric light and other conveniences. Farm buildings. Cottages.

THE LAND, part of which is let off, extends in all to about

## 160 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Inspected and recommended by the Sole Agents: HARRODS LTD., 62/64 Brompton Road, S.W.1. (Tel.: Kensington 1490. Extn. 807.)

## CHARMING EPPING FOREST NEIGHBOURHOOD c.3



*On high ground, commanding excellent views. Convenient to station with frequent service.*

## RESIDENCE OF ARCHITECTURAL MERIT

Hall, 3 reception rooms, including double drawing room, 6 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms. Main drainage. Co.'s electric light and water. Central heating.

GARAGE FOR 2 CARS. GARDENS & GROUNDS OF UNUSUAL CHARM, WITH ORCHARD, LAWN, FLOWER BEDS IN ALL ABOUT

## 1 ACRE. FOR SALE FREEHOLD

HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1.  
(Tel.: Kensington 1490.)



## FIVE MINUTES FROM HARROW SCHOOL PLAYING FIELDS c.2

2 minutes local buses, 8 minutes station, 10 minutes Piccadilly Tube.



## ATTRACTIVE BIJOU HOUSE

2 reception, 4 bedrooms, bathroom. Built-in garage. All mains. VERY PLEASANT MATURED GARDEN.

FREEHOLD 3,000 GUINEAS

Sole Agents:

HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1. (Tel.: Kensington 1490. Extn. 809.)

c.2

## DORSET

*Amid delightful hill country, situated in a pretty village only 2 miles from an historic town.*



## THE TYPE OF COMFORTABLE COUNTRY HOUSE

ALWAYS IN DEMAND AND MUCH SOUGHT AFTER  
3 reception, 7 bed, 2 bathrooms. Maids' sitting room. Main water and electricity. Constant hot water. Garage, outbuildings, and heated glass. MATURED WALLED GARDEN OF ABOUT

## 1 ACRE. FREEHOLD £5,500

HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1. (Tel.: Kensington 1490. Extn. 809.)

c.2

## ESHER AND LEATHERHEAD c.4

*Occupying a quietly retired position standing high with a delightful view.*



## SUPERBLY BUILT AND FITTED MODERN HOUSE

Lounge hall, 3 reception, sun loggia, 8 bedrooms, 3 well-fitted bathrooms, maid's sitting room. All main services. Complete central heating. Garage for 2 cars. Outbuildings. Lodge with 3 rooms and bathroom and a properly constructed Underground Air Raid Shelter. DELIGHTFUL GARDENS AND GROUNDS. HARD TENNIS COURT. WELL-STOCKED KITCHEN GARDENS AND A PLANTATION. In all about 4 ACRES. For Sale at a price to tempt a Discriminating Buyer. Sole Agents: HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1. (Tel.: Kensington 1490. Extn. 806.)

c.4

*About 3½ minutes from town. Convenient to main line station with fast service. In a quiet position.*

**RESIDENCE OF ARCHITECTURAL MERIT.** having parquet floors, h. and c. in bedrooms, and other features. Three reception, 5 bed and dressing, tiled bathroom. Main drainage. Co.'s electric light and water. Central heating. Garage. Well laid-out garden with rockery and shrubs, vegetable garden, in all about HALF AN ACRE. FOR SALE FREEHOLD. Inspected and recommended by HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1. (Tel.: Kensington 1490. Extn. 807.)

## ST. ANNE'S ON SEA, LANCS. c.4

*Choice situation, in best residential part.*

**EXCELMY WELL-APPOINTED RESIDENCE.** Square hall, 2 large reception, 5 bed and dressing, 2 bathrooms, complete offices. Double garage. All companies' electrical. Heated. First-rate structural and decorative repair. Very fine tennis lawn, flower beds, rockeries, in all just over HALF AN ACRE. PRICE

HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1. (Tel.: Kensington 1490.)

## KENT c.3

*About 3½ minutes from town. Convenient to main line station with fast service. In a quiet position.*

**RESIDENCE OF ARCHITECTURAL MERIT.** having parquet floors, h. and c. in bedrooms, and other features. Three reception, 5 bed and dressing, tiled bathroom. Main drainage. Co.'s electric light and water. Central heating. Garage. Well laid-out garden with rockery and shrubs, vegetable garden, in all about HALF AN ACRE. FOR SALE FREEHOLD. Inspected and recommended by HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1. (Tel.: Kensington 1490. Extn. 807.)

## UNSPOLTI PART OF HERTS c.4

45 minutes London; close to a golf course; 2 miles from a station. FOR PRIVATE OCCUPATION OR BUSINESS PURPOSES

**ATTRACTIVE MODERN HOUSE.** 3 good reception, 4-5 bed, bathroom, offices. Extending to about 7½ ACRES. ONLY £4,500 FREEHOLD. Immediate possession.—HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1. (Tel.: Kensington 1490.)

**BOURNEMOUTH:**  
ERNEST FOX, F.S.I., F.A.I.  
WILLIAM FOX, F.S.I., F.A.I.  
E. STODDART FOX, P.A.S.I., F.A.I.  
H. INSLEY-FOX, P.A.S.I., A.A.I.

# FOX & SONS

LAND AGENTS  
BOURNEMOUTH—SOUTHAMPTON—BRIGHTON

**SOUTHAMPTON:**  
ANTHONY B. FOX, F.S.I., F.A.I.  
T. BRIAN COX, P.A.S.I., A.A.I.

**BRIGHTON:**  
A. KILVINGTON, F.A.L.P.A.

**AN EXCEPTIONALLY  
WELL APPOINTED  
RESIDENCE NICELY  
SITUATED**  
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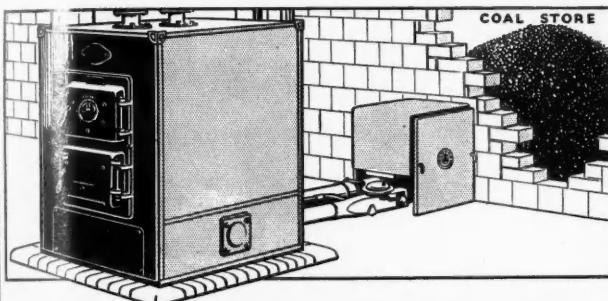
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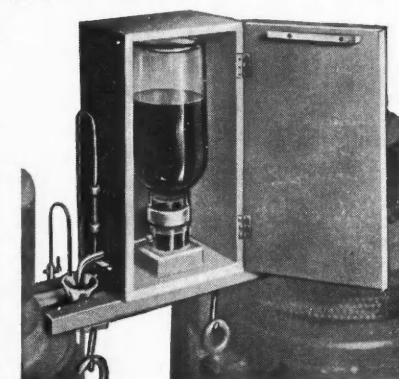
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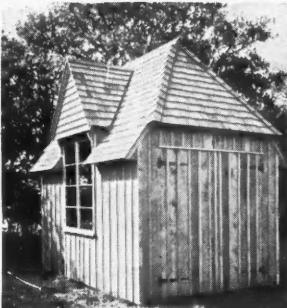
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# COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. XCV. No. 2456

FEBRUARY 11, 1944



*Marcus Adams*

## THE HON. MRS. ORMSBY-GORE AND HER CHILDREN

Mrs. Ormsby-Gore, who is the wife of Captain the Hon. David Ormsby-Gore, son of Lord and Lady Harlech and grandson of the Marquess and Marchioness of Salisbury, is the second daughter of the late Mr. Hugh Lloyd Thomas and the Hon. Mrs. Lloyd Thomas, of Compton Beauchamp, Shrivenham, Berkshire.

Mrs. Ormsby-Gore is a member of the W.V.S. and works for the American Red Cross

# COUNTRY LIFE

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## NO TIMBER SHORTAGE

THE stringent economy in the use of timber in war-time, imposed primarily in order to save shipping for other purposes, combined with doubts about our trade and shipping position in the first peace years, has given rise to an idea that timber will continue to be in short supply for some time. It is therefore reassuring to learn from *World Timber Supplies*, a booklet issued by the Timber Development Association, Limited, that there is, in fact, no shortage of standing timber and no lack of productive capacity in the main timber-producing areas; nor does it appear that there will be an abnormally heavy demand for timber immediately following the war, in relation to pre-war imports, the probable shipping position, and the trade and labour situations of the exporting countries. This conclusion is supported by some remarkable figures. For example, the 4,000,000 post-war houses, it is estimated, will require only 800,000 standards of softwood per annum, whereas the average annual import of softwood 1935-39 was 2,135,000 standards. Of our chief suppliers of softwood for joinery and building, several are capable of much greater exports than we could take (partly owing to the Ottawa agreements) in the immediate pre-war years. Thus imports from Finland, once our largest supplier, dropped from 748,000 standards in 1935 to 281,000 in 1939, Russia from 560,000 to 163,000; while the rise from 374,000 to 592,000 in Canada's exports to us, and the virtually inexhaustible sources in Africa, not to mention the U.S.A. and South America, indicate the readiness with which our requirements would be met.

The conclusions to be drawn are, first, as the Association points out, that the Ministries concerned with building and rehousing, shipping and trade, have a primary duty to ensure the adequate import of timber supplies. Secondly, that the case for pre-fabricated timber houses of good design, as an immediate solution of the housing shortage, especially in country areas, is greatly strengthened, indeed unanswerable as regards the availability of material. Professor Richardson has already shown, in these pages, how sightly such buildings could be. Also Mr. Alfred Bossom has returned from the U.S.A. convinced that timber could meet short-term housing needs till more solid structure followed without the scamping due to excessive haste. He recently opened an exhibition at the Building Centre (till February 26) of Swedish factory-made timber houses. As their prototypes date from the eighteenth century, and the Swedish climate is much more severe than ours, they demonstrate that pre-fabrication in timber can be a successful and practical contribution to

our vast post-war building programme, to which every branch of the building industry will be called upon to contribute.

## CARE OF WOODLANDS

BRITAIN is at present virtually self-supporting in respect of timber: an astonishing achievement considering the pre-war position. But this has only been possible by drawing heavily on reserves. It is a tribute to the officers of the Home Timber Production Department, of which Mr. Gerald Lenanion is chairman, that this intensive drain on woodlands is not more apparent than it is as one goes about the country. Now, however, to maintain the supply, more drastic inroads into timber hitherto spared on amenity grounds will in some cases be inevitable. To ensure that the minimum of distress is caused and that fellings shall still observe sound forestry and consideration for landscape, the Landowners' Timber Consultative Committee has been appointed to co-operate with the Department in this delicate stage of its operations. It includes representatives of the Forestry Commission, the Forest Products Research Laboratory, and, as adviser on amenity, the Deputy Editor of COUNTRY LIFE. The Department's officers, trained foresters, have all along kept before them the needs of regeneration and replanting after the war. The terms reached for "dedicated" woodlands as between the Forestry Commissioners and landowners' organisations, now published by the Stationery Office, make it clear that dedication will run with the land irrespective of changes in ownership. It is proposed that the basic replanting grant be £7 10s. per acre, with loans according to circumstances, and a maintenance grant for 15 years of 2s. 6d. per acre yearly on all dedicated woods. The planting grant, it is intended, should also be available for small woods which, though unsuitable for dedication, preserve the local timber supply. But a proposal for district committees on the lines of the W.A.E.C.s. has not been accepted.

## SPRING

*If bidden, then bidden before the beginning of time  
To consume and waste in a frenzy of incandescence,  
The obedient sun has warmed this twig of lime.  
Earth in her darkness hovering round his essence  
Rolls to this point of time and intercepts  
At a warmer angle his outward rushing fever,  
Not knowing that tree and man, the life-adeps,  
Moved by these beams, take each a step that never  
Till the end of time (nor then) can be retraced;  
Thus new buds fatten, and the dumb heart cries :  
"We must add leaves to this mocked paradise  
Because earth wanders and sun burns to waste."  
Hail ! mighty spendthrift, in whose vaporous gold  
Our griefs disrobe and live, our little buds unfold.*

FRANK KENDON.

## FARM COSTING

NOW that the tumult has died down every body seems agreed that the Costs and Prices dispute has been settled. But it would be unwise to underestimate the difficulties of arriving at those accurate—and generally accepted—figures on which future calculations must be based. Mr. Hudson offers to work out with the N.F.U. a series of costings, from a fully representative range of farms, which should be collected and analysed by impartial expert economists. Here he produces the example of the Milk Marketing Board and the practical effect of that Board's accurate accounting in enabling him to secure the granting of a bonus for milk-producers. The Milk Board began their study of milk production 10 years ago and the last Report under their Milk Investigation Scheme is a study of variations in costs down to the beginning of the war. It deals only with the comparatively modern side of dairy farming for the wholesale market, but it shows how complex the factors affecting production are and how great is bound to be that variation in the cost of production of all agricultural commodities, which is the root difficulty of all agricultural finance. In the period immediately preceding the war, the range of the costs of the individual producers of milk (in one year) was from 4½d.

to 19½d. per gallon! This indicates some of the pitfalls which may be encountered in working out those fully "representative" costings for which Mr. Hudson asks.

## CHILDREN ON THE FARM

THE school-leaving proposals of the Education Bill have inevitably raised once more some of the old questions of employment out of school, and such phrases as "the disgraceful exploitation of young life in the service of the community" are being used not only of the lads who bring round our morning papers but of country children who lend a hand on the farm or in the garden. Everybody must sympathise with the desire to stamp out any relics that remain of the economic child-exploitation of Dickensian times, but surely a good deal of this agitation shows little sense of proportion and much confusion of thought. Fifty years or so ago a wise and well-known inspector of country schools foretold the decay of recruitment for the farm if some form of half-time system combining lessons with farm chores were not encouraged or allowed to continue. He did not have his way, but it is remarkable that modern educational practice should more and more seek to provide just the same blend of practice and schooling as he recommended, by establishing a comparatively uneconomic system of school farms and gardens. At present, as Lord Elstace Percy recently pointed out, the law is designed to make it as difficult as possible for a country boy to do, outside school, the things which he does constantly in the garden and farm plots of a good modern rural school.

## IN THE STOCKS

A MEMBER of the Cheshire Standing Joint Committee has lately suggested that the village stocks should be re-introduced for those committing such petty crimes as stealing bicycles or stealing rides on them. Whether he would go further and bring back the ducking-stool for scolding wives we are not told, but in any case it is unlikely that his picturesque proposal will be adopted. The fashion of punishing criminals by an unsolicited publicity would not appeal to a psycho-analytical age, and yet there is something to be said for making people practically ashamed of themselves. It may be urged that to-day the newspapers have taken the place of the stocks and that they can make known the offender's disgrace to a far larger circle. They lack, however, that element of ridicule and indignity which in the case of the stocks was presumably so salutary. In some cases they may even give a not undesired advertisement. Mrs. Jarley was in the highest degree indignant when Miss Monflather the schoolmistress proposed that she should be placed in the stocks, but a mention in the newspapers would have been the one thing she wanted, since it would have sent all the world to see her waxworks. It is undeniable that we all know people whom we should like to see in the stocks and even throw a turnip (eggs and oranges are too precious) at them, but the question is an academic one and we must not be retrograde.

## TO FIT THE CRIME

NEVERTHELESS there is no harm in reflecting on the ingenuity of our forbears in fitting the punishment to the crime. For example, a rascal who was convicted by the Lord Mayor of London in 1634 of selling bad wine was sentenced to drink enough of it to make him sick and then to have the rest poured over his head. A retailer of bad fish, despatched for a spell in the pillory, was first to be adorned with a collar of his stinking smelts. One butcher who had sold bad meat was shut in a small cell with his stock-in-trade—and that at midsummer! Another was put in the stocks, there to have his rotten meat burnt under his nose. Machyn the diarist recorded that on February 21, 1554, "there was a man riding about London, his face towards the horse's tail, a quarter of veal before him and another behind him, and a pig borne before him scalded upon a pole." And on another occasion the same observer saw an offending butcher being similarly punished.

A

## COUNTRYMAN'S

## NOTES . . .

By

Major C. S. JARVIS

**I** THUGHT the prosecution of Home Guard officers for arming themselves against the invader had gone out of fashion during the last two years of the Forces' existence, but I was wrong. A Home Guard officer has appeared in court recently, and suffered a fine of £2 for exchanging his .380 revolver, which he had carried on duty since the first days of the old L.D.V., for a .455—a superior and heavier weapon. The owner of the .455 was sergeant of the Anti-Aircrafts, now overseas, who had said the weapon was a private one, and he wished to exchange it for something smaller as he found the .455 too heavy to carry always. As one who had to wear a .455 for two long weary years under the penalty of the exclusion of my future widow from any compensation if my expected assassination had taken place while I was not carrying it, I concur most heartily. When the Home Guard officer called at the local police station to have his licence altered in consequence of the exchange it transpired that the .455 was a Government issue, though there seemed to me to be some doubt as to whether the mark on it was part of the broad arrow mark, a laundry mark or just a mark of interrogation. The result was the £2 fine and the seizure of the weapon, and so the Home Guard officer goes forth to meet the foe unarmed.

I have often wondered what the police do with all the weapons they seize. Do they destroy them, do they send them off to some central depot, or, like my Scottie terrier with his bones, do they bury them in a safe place and immediately forget the location? My sporting rifle, handed in to the police in 1937, together with several other rifles and revolvers of which I was notified, was not to be traced when we began to try to arm ourselves during the weaponless summer of 1940.

I would suggest that the police store up all their weapon-hunting enthusiasm and energies for the strenuous days to come when, with peace and demobilisation, they will have to try to locate all the Sten guns—a very lethal weapon—which have been issued to the Home Guard; and this is going to give them what the Royal Air Force call a bad headache. As things are, Home Guardsmen are being constantly called up for the Services or work of national importance, and frequently, I believe, the first notification of this that the company or platoon commander obtains is the absence of the called-up man from parades. When this has been going on for a month or more enquiries are made, and it is found that the "unpatriotic" absentee is serving in a destroyer in the Arctic, in the front line in Italy or the Solomons, or in an extremely secret factory. The next thing is to retrieve the absentee's kit and money from his wife, his mother or, more frequently, from his former landlady—and land-ladies of a class are seldom helpful.

\* \* \*

A HOME GUARD correspondent has sent me a copy of a training circular which is being passed round in his area, and which consists of notes on jungle and river fighting. I should imagine the pamphlet might be of considerable value to units which may be proceeding to the Far East shortly, but it is doubtful if a Home Guard unit located in an



Will F. Taylor

THE WEIR ON THE RIVER BOVEY, LUSTLEIGH, DEVON

open down country will be able to apply any of the teachings about jungle clearance and mosquito precautions during its weekly parades. A most interesting paragraph about dealing with hostile river craft falls on somewhat barren ground, as the drawback to this area is that it is almost entirely waterless, and the biggest stream in the locality holds nothing larger than 4-oz. trout and would float nothing of greater tonnage than a child's yacht.

There is, however, a most exciting and promising item headed *Mess Tin Cooking*, in which it is suggested that Home Guardsmen should be instructed in the butchering and cutting-up of pigs and bullocks, and this, I understand, has been greeted with enthusiasm. The unit as one man agrees that demonstrations on these lines have great possibilities, and the feeling is, this side of Home Guard training having been disgracefully neglected in the past, that instructions in it should be held at least once a week. If time did not admit of cooking the resulting joints in mess tins the men could take them home with them and ask their wives to finish the demonstration in the home kitchen. Indents for the necessary adjuncts to the course, bullocks and pigs on the hoof, will therefore be rendered in triplicate and the result of the application is awaited with interest.

\* \* \*

**A** RECENT episode concerning the use of a motor car for partridge shooting has revived the old discussion as to whether the engined vehicle should be used in connection with game shooting, or, in fact, any form of hunting. There is, of course, no argument whatsoever about the actual running down with a car of the various members of the antelope family, such as the gazelle, oryx and others, though one must overlook, I suppose, the cases which have occurred recently in North Africa, as soldiery on iron rations are in a different category from ordinary folk and cannot be expected to see fresh meat on the hoof without taking direct action. Nevertheless I still regret that it was due to the light car patrols, in which I was serving for a time during the last war, that the last of the rare addax was exterminated in North Libya.

There is, however, the employment of the motor car by big-game shooting parties in which the car is used for transport only, and with its wide range enables the sportsmen to get on the track of herds in a matter of hours where formerly the search took days, and sometimes weeks. The argument against this

is that it has simplified and made easy a previously hard and wearisome business, and enabled a number of soft-living folk to indulge in a form of sport which was previously reserved for the hardy and energetic only. I believe that the aeroplane and seaplane are now used to locate the caribou migration around Hudson Bay, so that it is possible to shoot one's bull caribou in the morning and get back in time for a bath before cocktails and dinner. The arguments against this sort of thing are manifold, and range from the greater need for preservation against inroads on all wild life, and the ordinary sportsman's view that, if one desires to kill an animal as a trophy, one should run some risk and suffer some discomfort in return. There is of course the final argument, held by an ever-increasing number of people, that one should not desire to kill an animal just to put his head or skin on the wall as a trophy, but should be satisfied with a good photograph.

\* \* \*

**T**HE partridge-shooting episode has occurred on an emergency landing ground where a big tract of country has been levelled and the hedges and ditches have been removed. The area was always well stocked with birds in the past, and the recently disturbed soil apparently contains something that is most attractive to the partridge, as there is always a large number of coveys at work on the flat land. It is impossible to walk these coveys up as they rise at 200 yds. or more, but the partridge is a stupid bird, as he does not connect cars with his enemy, man. The guns therefore drive up to within range, dismount and take the birds as they rise.

This opens up an enormous range of arguments. One may hold the view that it is an unsporting method of getting within shooting distance, but on the other hand, if old traditions and beliefs are eliminated, it might be held that to walk them up and surprise them in thick cover, such as swedes or kale, was equally unsporting. Also, as some shots are far more deadly with driven birds than those flying away, one might go farther and argue that to drive them with beaters over hedgerows to the guns hidden beyond was also not fair. As the mechanically-propelled guns do not hail from this country they are quite unable to see our point of view, and their arguments are novel and illuminating. They say, among other things, that there is a large amount of succulent meat running about the ground, and that meat is very short in this country.



## BIRD OBSERVATORIES for GREAT BRITAIN

By JOHN BUXTON and  
GEORGE WATERSTON

[Readers will be interested to know that the following article was written when both its authors were prisoners of war in Germany. Mr. Waterston was recently repatriated.—ED.]

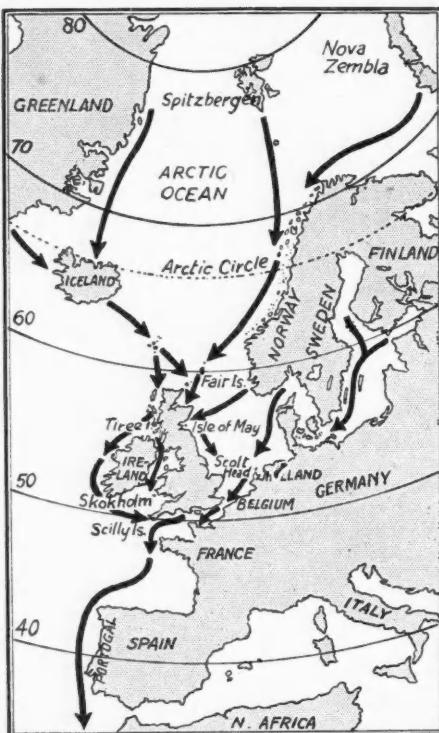
### RELEASING A CUCKOO

Ringed in the British Isles, cuckoos have been recovered in West Africa

**F**OR some years before the outbreak of war two bird observatories had been in existence in Britain on a more or less permanent basis, at Skokholm Island off the Pembrokeshire coast, and at the Isle of May in the Firth of Forth. Both of these had done valuable scientific work: both were dependent on private enterprise, of R. M. Lockley at Skokholm and of the members of the Midlothian Ornithological Club at the Isle of May. There was no institution which supported these observatories, such as the United States Bureau of Biological Survey; nor did any Government department consider itself justified in assisting the work, as is done in Germany for the observatories at Heligoland and Rossitten, and in Hungary by the Hungarian Institute of Ornithology. Small grants were made by certain societies for particular purposes, as for the homing experiments with the Manx shearwater at Skokholm, and in the first instance the money for traps and equipment was raised by public subscription.

Without in any way disparaging these sources of income, which could never be counted upon, it must be said that most of the work was made possible only because certain people were willing to pay for the privilege of doing it. Unfortunately the means of those engaged in scientific work are not always proportionate to their enthusiasm, and it is to be hoped that after the war some method may be found of financing this work. This should allow of its expansion, and should also make it possible for those who cannot afford to study the migration of birds as a hobby to do so as a part of biological studies at the university or elsewhere.

It is indeed remarkable that, whereas adequate provision is made by the museums for the study of the dead bird, of avian anatomy and taxonomy, no provision is made in Britain for the study of the living bird in its natural



MAP TO SHOW AUTUMN MIGRATION OF BIRDS TO THE BRITISH ISLES

environment. Given sufficient leisure, anyone interested in birds can make valuable studies of single species or of certain problems: the work of the late Eliot Howard on bird mentality, and of Mrs. Morse Nice on the life-history of the song-sparrow are outstanding examples of such studies. But for the study of migration



### HOW TO HOLD A SMALL BIRD

The band is being placed on its leg.  
Photograph taken on Skokholm

or colonies of breeding sea-birds, or for ecological work, the co-operation of several people is necessary. It is to provide opportunities for such work that the observatories at Skokholm and the Isle of May were started, and it is to find means to enable such work to continue and to expand that the suggestions which we make are designed.

Countries less favourably placed than our own have for years had established bird observatories. We have lagged behind, perhaps because it is a national characteristic to let some enthusiastic amateur begin a new work before accepting it as something of national concern. But it is certainly to be hoped that, after the war, observatories will be established to take advantage of the unique position of our islands.

For their position is unique in that they form a meeting-place for three great streams of migration: that from the north-east from Spitzbergen and the Scandinavian peninsula, the eastern stream from the countries about the Baltic, and the north-western stream from Greenland, Iceland and the Faroes. Even Heligoland collects only the two first of these streams.

The map will show better than any description how these three streams converge in autumn on the British Isles, from where in spring they fan out in the reverse direction. It will be seen that the north-eastern stream strikes the East Coast from the Shetlands to the coast of Yorkshire, and that the eastern or Baltic stream strikes the coast of East Anglia, where it merges with the stream of birds passing south along the coast. And the north-western stream splits at the Faroes, and part passes south along our western coasts, both through the Irish Sea and down the West Coast of Ireland, while (probably a smaller) part passes over to the Shetlands and so in due course joins the



THE BIRD-MARKING ROOM AT THE BIRD OBSERVATORY, HELIGOLAND



THE BUILDINGS OF THE ORNITHOLOGICAL STATION ON HELIGOLAND

north-eastern and eastern streams. These pass round the coast of Kent and flow south-west along both the British and French shores of the Channel. At the Scilly Isles they unite with the north-western stream before passing south with it towards the Iberian peninsula and beyond.

A vast number of these migrating birds passes into the interior of the country, but this is too well known to need emphasis here. The picture is of necessity over-simplified, but is in the main true for migrants reaching our shores, whether they are to stay to winter or to breed or are on passage. The geographical position of the British Isles makes of them a meeting-place for three great streams of migration. If a sample of these birds is to be studied, and especially by the modern method of trapping and ringing, it should be possible by reference to the map to determine in what areas we should look for suitable sites for the observatories.

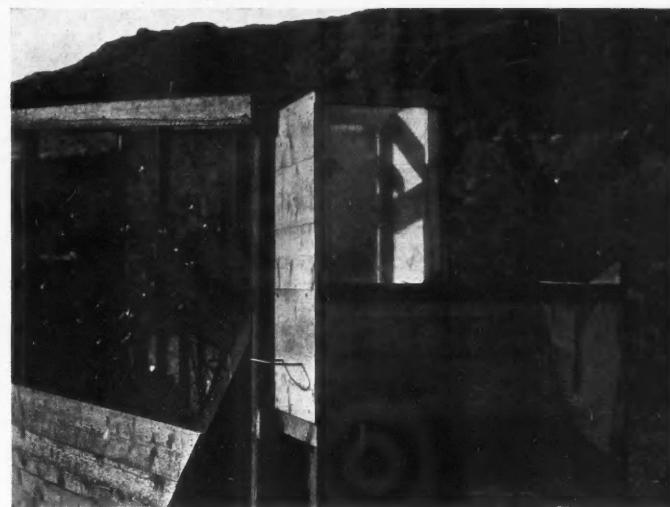
Within these areas an island or a peninsula is to be preferred to a strip of the main coastline for several reasons. Islands and peninsulas are not only likely to be less disturbed, but they collect birds together, perhaps because land-birds (and the migration we are considering is largely of land-birds) naturally use such places as stepping-stones rather than pass them by on a more direct route which may involve a longer sea crossing. An island or peninsula is, besides, an ideal place for working, in that it is limited by physical features which concern the birds and not by arbitrary man-made divisions which cannot affect the birds at all. Further, outside the migration season, an island gives excellent opportunities for ecological work since, again, the limits of human and intrusion of animals or plants is more easily detected. Islands often provide breeding-stations for large colonies of birds, such as the shearwater and petrels, which will not breed on mainland sites. The presence or absence of a lighthouse is probably immaterial. At least the experience of Drost on Heligoland during this war gives no evidence that the extinguishing of the lights decreases migration. Lighthouses may cause great loss among migrating birds, though this could be prevented, and it is to be hoped that it will be.

From what has already been said it could easily be deduced (if it were not already well known) that Fair Isle, lying midway between the Shetland and Orkney Islands, and the Scilly Islands lying at the last point of departure for the south for all three streams of migration, would provide the two best sites for observatories. There is the further consideration that in the Scilly Isles the few stray American birds which cross the Atlantic from time to time make their landfall. Both at Fair Isle and in the Scilly Isles there are considerable breeding populations of sea-birds. Both again have the

advantages of the presence of a local human population and, especially in the Scilly Isles, of regular means of communication with the mainland. Much work has been done, at least since the days of Eagle Clarke, at both of these stations, but much more might be done if a permanent observatory were established and if trapping and ringing were carried on. It is to be hoped that observatories will be established as soon as possible at both these sites, whether or not links between the two can be made by observatories on the East or West Coasts.

It would certainly be desirable to have such links. If Skokholm and the Isle of May continue after the war, well and good, and it is to be hoped they will, since work done at these stations already will be very relevant to any work there in the future. It remains to find sites between Skokholm and Fair Isle on the West and between the Isle of May and the Scilly Isles on the East and South Coasts. On the East Coast two stations at once suggest themselves: the Farne Islands or Holy Island off the coast of Northumberland, and Scolt Head Island off the coast of Norfolk. Both of these are already carefully protected; both are breeding stations of large numbers of birds. In particular the Farne Islands provide the most southerly home of the eider, long ago cherished by St. Cuthbert, and at Scolt Head there are flourishing colonies of terns. Neither Holy Island nor Scolt Head is difficult of access, and while the first traps only the north-eastern stream of migrants from Scandinavia, Scolt Head adds to these the birds coming from the Baltic, Denmark and Holland.

On the South Coast Dungeness is the obvious choice, again because there is a large breeding population of birds on the beaches, and because it provides a jumping-off place for birds crossing the Channel to France, or, in the spring, a landing-ground for birds returning from France. On the West Coast the choice of a site is more difficult, especially in the north where the sea is so thickly studded with islands. Perhaps the most promising would be the Calf of Man, which is owned by the National Trust



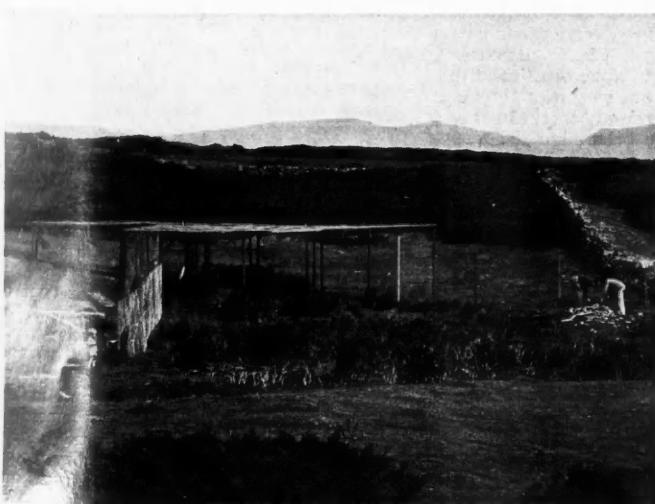
THE CATCHING-BOX, ISLE OF MAY

Showing the glass against which the birds flutter before dropping into the box, where they are caught in the attendant's hand, inserted through the elastic sleeve on the right

and already carefully protected, and Tiree, where there is a good wader migration. Tiree is well placed to gather together birds coming down the coast of the mainland, or through the Hebrides, but is unfortunately rather large to work easily; and Rathlin Island off the coast of Northern Ireland might be preferable.

Further links could easily be provided if the British Trust for Ornithology were to revive the British Association's scheme for getting lighthouse-keepers to observe migration. Valuable results were obtained by this method before the last war and many lighthouse-keepers became interested, and some became expert ornithologists. It would perhaps be possible at some lighthouses to mark birds, but visual observation would be very useful, especially when correlated with a record of weather conditions. It might be possible to acquire or to construct a decoy for ringing duck as has been done with such outstanding success at Orielton in Pembrokeshire. Sites could easily be found in East Anglia, at Loch Fleet near Dornoch, in the Solway and perhaps elsewhere. Extension of the work could go on indefinitely, but it has been our purpose in this article to suggest that a beginning should and could easily be made, and to suggest the best sites for the establishment of bird observatories.

Ways and means must now be considered. But first it must be pointed out that this article is based on two assumptions: that the pursuit



ON SKOKHOLM ISLAND: Cover, water and food invite passing birds to rest. They are then driven into the funnel of netting and the enclosure at the narrow end, examined, ringed and set free. (Right) INTERIOR OF A HELIGOLAND-TYPE TRAP ON THE ISLE OF MAY, showing the avenues of cover down which birds are driven. The door, worked by a distant release, closes them into a small pen

of knowledge is desirable for its own sake, and that if this is so then it is desirable to enable those who cannot otherwise afford to do so to take part in such investigations as we have outlined. Since these assumptions are fundamental, and appear to be accepted in the provision of museums and zoos, it is not proposed to offer any argument in their support. Investigations into the economic value of birds would be an incidental part of the work.

At each observatory there would need to be a permanent staff. There should be a manager or director, who would be responsible for keeping the records of the observatory, and who would assist students in their work. He would probably need one or two assistants to help in the secretarial work, and in catering for visitors. Local conditions would vary, but at some places visitors might be able to stay near at inns, farms, or crofts, and at others provision would have to be made at the observatory. It would probably be best to limit the number of students at any one time to 12 or 15, especially where large breeding colonies were near at hand. If the students were housed in the observatory they should be provided with beds and bedding, and with their meals, though they would be expected to assist in the preparation of these, and in other domestic duties. It is not usually possible on more or less remote islands to provide a domestic staff, which

would in any case greatly increase the cost.

A reference library of the standard books should be available, and the current European and American journals, such as *Vogelzey*, *Birdbanding*, etc., should be taken. There should be a small collection of skins for reference, and a laboratory where skins could be prepared, where birds could be measured and weighed, and where experiments (as with light, feeding, and so on) could be made. A large permanent trap of the Heligoland type, as used at Skokholm and the Isle of May, should be erected, and there should be other portable traps and nets of various types. In some places it would be necessary to provide cover by planting suitable salt-resistant shrubs and bushes; in others cover might have to be cut in order to concentrate birds about the trapping areas.

Goats might be kept, and poultry, and if possible vegetables should be grown, in order to reduce costs. But such matters are obviously dependent on local conditions. Whatever savings could be made, there would still be a need for some endowment, both for the original establishment, for upkeep, and for salaries of the permanent staff. These funds could be found in various ways. They might come from private sources, but it has been our view that they should come from public sources. It would perhaps be best if they were financed by grants from Government departments, from the Board

of Education, and from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. But, failing this, the observatories might be financed by grants from the universities, and from various interested societies and institutions, such as local natural history societies, the British Trust for Ornithology, the British Ornithologists' Union, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and the National Trust. Whether this is possible or not we cannot say, nor are we in a position to find out. The one way in which the work ought not to be financed, and probably cannot be financed, is by leaving it to those who are prepared to do so to pay for the privilege not only of doing it but of instructing others.

As has been shown, the British Isles are in an exceptionally favourable geographical position for field-work on birds, and yet we have hitherto lagged far behind other countries with fewer natural advantages for such work. The museums provide unrivalled facilities for study of the dead bird: the scheme which has been the purpose of this article to put forward would provide no less excellent opportunities for the study of the living bird. The cost would not be great, and we are confident that the work would be of great value.

*With the exception of the two from Heligoland, the photographs illustrating this article are by R. M. Lockley.*

## MEMORY ◊ By STEPHEN GWYNN

PEOPLE are saying that unusual failure of memory is just now a common experience, brought about by the strain of war-time: as if this faculty were unable to recover normally from the demands made on it for details of geography or of recent military history every time we listen to the news. And indeed it is not easy to carry, so to say, an atlas in our heads, where any place in Central Russia, the Philippines, North Africa, or the manufacturing towns in France, Germany and Italy can be promptly turned up; while for personalities memory needs to be a perfect Gazetteer of Generals and a *Who's Who* of flying Aces.

Yet after all faculties do not invariably or even generally tend to break down under exceptional using. Many men dig more nowadays and split more wood than has been their custom, without experiencing even the beginnings of muscular collapse; many ladies do much in their own households that in times before they would have counted laborious, and yet are only the better cooks and housemaids. As to exertions of memory, we do not hear of failure among those who tax it severely, either for business or other reasons—whether as dealers on the Stock Exchange, as students of form on the turf, or merely as specialists in batting averages.

\* \* \*

It may just be that by this talk of war-time stress consolation is administered, as a help in reconciling us to a falling off, due to causes much more general than any which ever a world war sets in motion. War certainly emphasises it; there is a vast deal more to be remembered. Ration books and such like are only too easily mislaid, or left behind when they should be ready to be presented; it is natural that the old should find themselves specially inconvenienced and not unnatural that they should be annoyed and surprised. Physical decadence inevitably makes itself noticed; the power of mental exertion diminishes less perceptibly, yet an awareness grows in the elders that their intellectual energies do not, to put it moderately, crave to be used. But in regard to memory those who have long said good-bye to youth are actually deluded by possessing a positive advantage. Anyone over sixty can remember the Boer War clearly enough, and, what is more important, can recall so distinct a period as the Victorian Age. All this is so real as to have produced a superstition that memory is a special attribute of old age. Yet the disconcerting truth appears to be that in many cases it is the first stronghold to be attacked; and the sapping is so insidious that it may be far

advanced before notice is taken. Then the shock can be painful.

For, after all, we are in great measure our memories; they are the sum of what we have acquired, one man through reading books, another through observing horses or cattle, another by following the courses of growth on land, or the fluctuations of prices in some commodity or currency. If memory fades out, the man is less himself; the intimate resources at his command are fewer. In fact, he himself is fading out, in the inevitable course of things; and it is a disagreeable intimation when he finds himself unable, for example, to visualise a house where he was often happy. Nobody is surprised that strength and suppleness should be less than they were; the average man tends rather to be thankful for so much of them as he finds available. But loss of memory is not one of the phases of decay which we as a rule anticipate; and its effect seems in a manner to strike deeper—affecting the personality more closely than failure either of bodily or mental energy.

And yet its importance may easily be exaggerated. If to be impoverished in memory were to carry also the loss of experience, then indeed man or woman might have cause to lament. So much as this has certainly gone—the means to defend a judgment by calling up instances to support it, as a mature man in full possession of his resources can do with great authority. But the essence of experience is not in this almost forensic ability; it is in the power to judge right instinctively. None of us at any time can give all the reasons why we approve such a one, and distrust such another. In the course of life judgment has been educated like a wine merchant's palate; and the conclusion will be none the less confident though the detail which led to its forming may have been lost. When memory can be called in to justify the judgment of experience, that is a great addition; but the judgment is more essentially the man than his memory can be. A wine-taster may have forgotten the names of many growths and no longer be able to say what date on a bottle promises fine things, and yet may retain the aptitude to know good wine from bad infallibly when he tastes it. And a gentleman will be none the less a gentleman in his appreciations because his memory may often fail him.

\* \* \*

For one thing, however, memory can be trusted not to fail. Anything that at any time has sharply gratified self-esteem will be unfailingly preserved—a lucky ball in the cricket field, a salmon unexpectedly captured—or, to think in terms of war-time service, some word of appreciation from above, or better still from

below, that struck home by its sincerity. Wounds to the same faculty of self-esteem are not so carefully preserved; there must be some tacit act of oblivion. But, vanity apart, memory preserves pleasures better than discomfort. Anybody who thinks back to winter months of trench life in Flanders, over 25 years ago, will be presented with a general impression of dirt and dreariness; but any detail that survives is apt to be something recalled either with pleasure or with amusement.

As to the things making a part of our acquired store of knowledge which we used to remember, here no doubt loss of memory may amount finally to intellectual decrepitude. But that is a very extreme case and we get on passably without really possessing what we are believed (even by ourselves) to command. This may be specially true of writing. Someone said that the "pen gravels the deepest furrows." If that were so, the writer of these lines should have a wide field in very thorough cultivation; but, in fact, this extent of furrowing affords chiefly opportunities to realise how much in how many kinds he has now forgotten that he once knew thoroughly. To re-read oneself is often thought to be a way of re-establishing grasp of a subject; but it would be rash to give assurance that the fountains of Lethe will not flood again all this fine ploughland.

\* \* \*

One fact, however, stands out. Of all aids to remembrance, none is the equal of verse. There are good grounds for believing that when metrical composition began—and that was when humanity depended much more than now on individual powers of memory—there was less thought of artistic pleasure than of a device to help professional chroniclers, who had not yet the companion trick of writing. Writing indeed has largely superseded memory. Yet we all know how the syllabic elaborations which the Romans more particularly built up have made Horace a household word. But none of them, Sapphic or Alcaic, can match rhyme for awakening the life of old words, asleep somewhere in the folds of our consciousness, and glad to be awakened. Studied avoidance of regular form and of recurrent sound makes modern poetry much less easy to remember than that of earlier generations; and to this many of us elders are without difficulty reconciled. But we remain thankful from our hearts for the spell of rhyme which keeps, for instance, Moira O'Neill's *Songs of the Glens of Antrim* easily within hail of our memories when much else has gone beyond recall—even remembrances that might perhaps have ministered to our vanities.

# CRUCK BUILDINGS IN HEREFORDSHIRE

By F. C. MORGAN



1.—PUTLEY. THE LACONS  
A complete cruck cottage

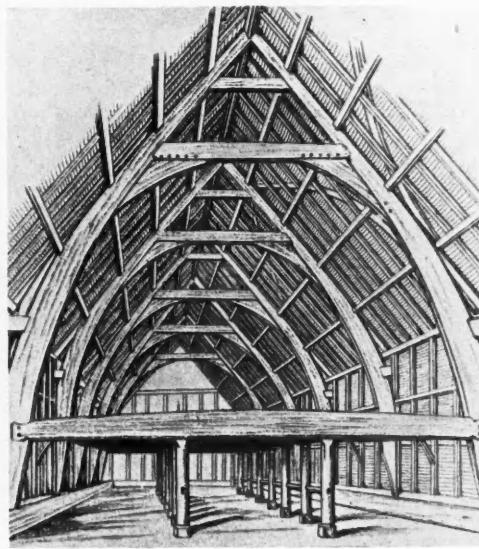
**T**HOUGH Herefordshire has few timber buildings of the size and magnificence of those found in Worcestershire or Cheshire, timber construction was usual for the smaller houses and cottages. Researches made before the war established that a considerable number of these—no fewer than 112, and 28 barns—are of the primitive cruck construction, dating from the Middle Ages to the seventeenth century. In Hereford itself the only surviving cruck cottage was pulled down recently under a demolition order.

Crucks, or forks, it need scarcely be recalled, are naturally curved limbs or trunks of trees set so as to form a gable supporting the ridge pole or "roof tree." In early, possibly British and certainly in Saxon and early mediæval times, the great majority of buildings were of this type, which explains the comparative ease with which, apparently, a house could be moved and re-erected elsewhere. The size of these houses varied according to the number of "bays" they contained, two pairs of crucks forming one bay; and it is true, if a coincidence, that the average width of a bay tends to be 16 ft., a space that will stall a double yoke of oxen.

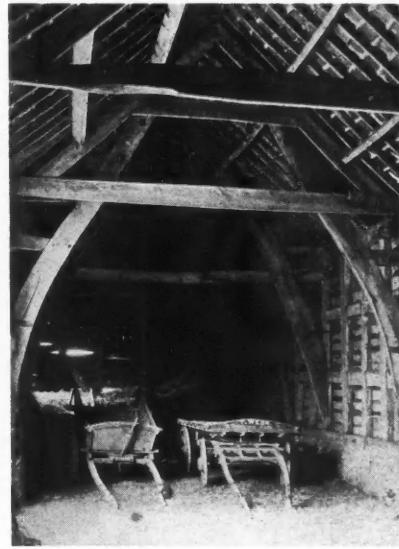
The character of these early dwellings is sometimes better seen in old cruck-built barns, built subsequent to the method's rejection for domestic purposes but showing the construction without the floors, parti-walls, chimneys, and later insertions that usually obscure the original arrangement of a cruck cottage. This process is clearly seen in the house called the Lacons, Putley (Fig. 1): pieces of crucks of early types are seen in position, also the cross-beams supporting a floor. The way is also seen in which vertical side walls and a roof of even pitch were obtained on the cruck framework.

The best-known house is at Weobley (Fig. 4). This had an open hall of cruck construction, with a cross wing at the north-west end. Crucks at the south-east are shown in elevation, and the central pair with foiled openings now forms part of an inner wall made when the hall was divided into two storeys and the dormer window inserted in the sixteenth century. This part of Herefordshire is rich in material for the study of early timber buildings, for Eardisley, Pembridge and Dilwyn comprise over two dozen. In the north examples are found at St. Asaph, Thornebury, and Brilley.

Several have fallen down from neglect, a fine timber house at Peterstow, near Ross, was found to have quite collapsed since the visit of the Commissioners, the Mill at Rowstone had



2.—WIGMORE BARN, ADFORTON  
Drawing by E. Blore, before demolition



3.—TREBERON AT TRETIRE  
15th-century cruck barn

fallen into ruins and the moulded crucks had been sawn off: the stumps still remain to show how good they were.

At Longtown, near the Black Mountains, there are six houses with cruck remains. Old Court is of 14th-century origin with three pairs of crucks, though one has been mutilated. This house had an open hall with buttery and solar cross wings. The chimney stack was inserted at the west end of the hall in the seventeenth century when other alterations were made. Here there are many other features of interest, including part of the "screens" with two ogee-shaped heads of former doorways. Ty-Mawr in the same parish is remarkable. The dilapidated great central hall of three bays with four pairs of crucks is now used as a barn.

Of cruck barns, the best was at Wigmore Grange in Adferton, judging from a drawing by E. Blore (Fig. 2) made before it was destroyed in the nineteenth century. This shows five pairs of crucks, and there may have been still another pair behind the artist's stand-point. The destruction of so fine a building cannot be sufficiently deplored. At Aylton, near Ledbury, a mediæval barn of six bays still stands at the Court House. The tiled roof has gone and been replaced by corrugated iron, spoiling its appearance, but perhaps saving the old timbers from collapse. At the near-by village of Putley, Newton's Farm Barn is mediæval. Treberon barn

at Tretire (Fig. 3) is in an excellent state of preservation. Part of this dates from the fifteenth century, and three pairs of crucks can be seen. Stagsbach Barn in Leominster Out is in fair condition and has five pairs of crucks in position. This also is of early date, but the tie-beams have been removed.



4.—A CRUCK "HALL HOUSE" WITH LATER FLOORS,  
WEOBLEY



5.—AT EARDISLEY  
House of four bays, possibly thirteenth century

# SHELLWORK ROOMS AND GROTTOES

By M. JOURDAIN

**S**HELLWORK, which was an amusement and accomplishment of ingenious ladies in the late seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, ranged from minor works, such as the trimming and encasing of stands, vases, lustres, frames and sconces and cabinets with applied shells, to the lining of a room or grotto with shells sometimes combined with "petrifications" and coral. The attraction of such work lies in the unfading palette of the shell, infinitely varied in form, colour, and size, and also in the pleasure in disposing them in a setting where Palladian rules did not run, an Aladdin's cave, sparkling with an "eventide of gems." The glow of shellwork was often reinforced by the glitter of mirror-glass. Pope's "open temple," near his Twickenham villa, was finished with shells "interspersed with pieces of looking-glass in angular forms." In the ceiling there was also "a star of the same material, at which, when a lamp of thin alabaster is hung in the middle, a thousand pointed rays glitter and are reflected over the place."

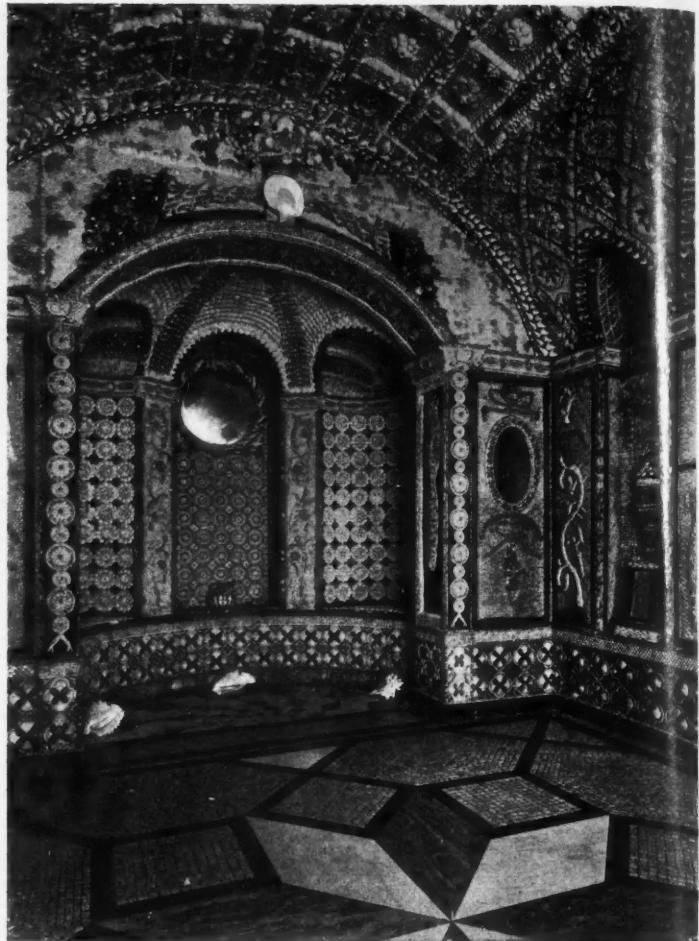
The amateur of shells—and there were many in the eighteenth century—arranged and classified in their cabinets the specimens brought from Jamaica, Italy and the Channel Islands, besides decorating rooms and grottoes. The *Gentleman's Magazine* of 1743 has a poem on Lady Walpole's grotto, to which shells were sent from the Channel Islands :

Each little isle with generous zeal  
Sends grateful every precious shell  
To make the W(al)p(o)l(e) grotto fine.

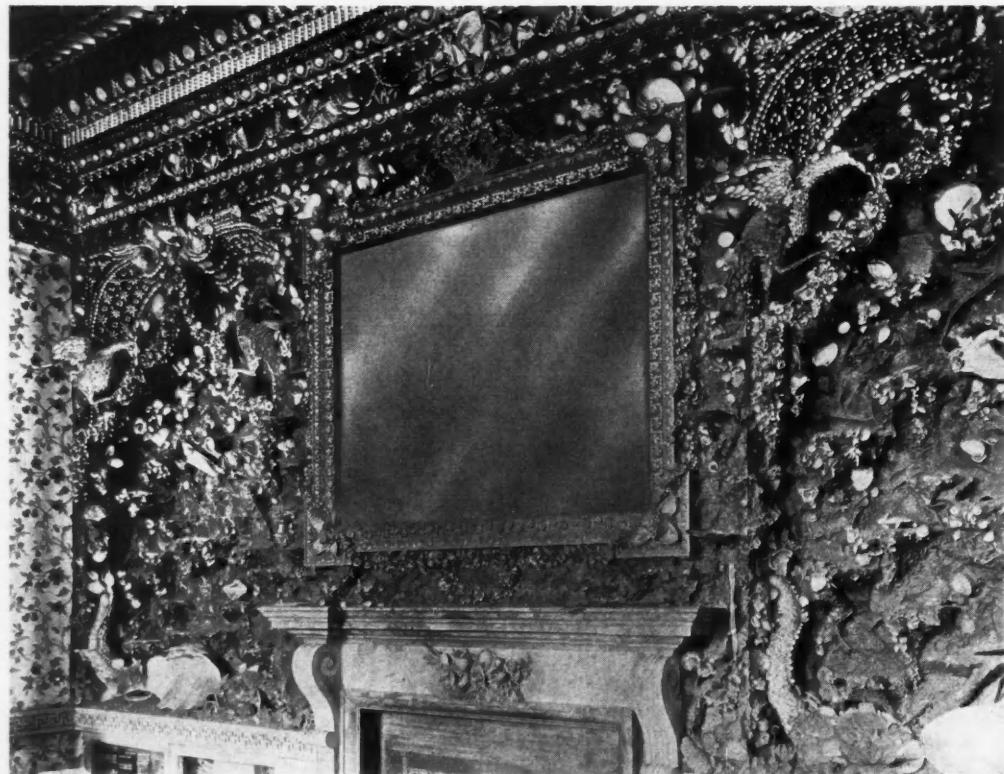
In 1739 a shipload of shells was collected by Captain Knowles of H.M.S. *Diamond*, and in a letter of that date he writes that he chose "rather than be idle, to pick up shells." The shipload was destined for the Dukes of Bedford and Richmond.

The pursuit of shells, both in personal search on the shore, and by barter or purchase from collections, runs through the letters of the industrious Mrs. Delany, who "made most elaborate candelabra, lustres, and garlands for panels of rooms, and also wonderful shell grottoes." At one moment (1759) she writes of setting off in her coach to Burdoyl, six miles from her Irish home, in search of shells, at another of the "scramble" for shells at the sale after the death of the painter Arthur Pond. She helped her friend, the Duchess of Portland, with a "cave" at Bulstrode, which was building in 1760. The Duchess of Portland was a very active shell-worker, and once boasted that she had killed a thousand snails—a very small supply for a grotto.

The cost of a shell grotto was high; William Shenstone declared that Lady Fane's grotto cost her £5,000, which was "about three times as much as her house is worth"; it is (he adds) "a very beautiful disposition of the finest collection of shells I ever saw." Grottoes were also costly in time; Hutchins, the historian of



GOODWOOD, SUSSEX, GROTTO SAID TO HAVE BEEN MADE ABOUT 1740 BY THE SECOND DUCHESS OF RICHMOND



MEREWORTH, KENT, SHELL ROOM. MID-EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

Fantastic birds and festoons of shell flowers among the rococo grotesques

Dorset, writes that that at St. Giles's House, begun in 1751, and furnished with a vast variety of curious shells, disposed in the most beautiful manner, took two years to arrange; while the grotto at Goodwood was seven years in the making.

The construction and design of grottoes was taken seriously by connoisseurs. Arthur Young, when visiting a famous underground grotto at Clifton, near Bristol, criticises it for a lack of rusticity, and condemns the four Tuscan pillars that supported the roof, and the source of the cascade, which poured "from the urn of a river god," as it does in that at Stourhead. But on the whole he was impressed by the profusion of Bristol stone and the "great number of fine shells, fossils, corals, spar, etc., all in greater plenty and better of their sort than in any grotto" he had seen. An advertisement in the *Connoisseur* (1755), giving the catalogue of the choice and valuable effects "of a gentleman leaving off housekeeping" lists "Merlin's cave, in shellwork, composed of over a thousand beautiful shells with a cascade of looking-glass playing in the middle."

The Goodwood grotto, close to Carné's Seat in the Park, made about 1739, is externally like many other grottoes, "a rude structure." Within, the walls are cased in the finest English shellwork extant, showing lovely and skilful design. The vault is coffered, the wall surface variegated in its decoration, some of its panels

being enriched with *motifs* in relief, such as vases and pedestals within niches, while others are mounted with oval and circular mirror panels. The dado is ornamented with quatrefoils formed of orange scallop-shells and dark mussels; but above the leading note in colour is shell pink; the vault a combination of pink and white; the general hue of the interior being an "opalescent flesh-colour picked out in black bands formed of thousands of tiny mussel shells." The floor is paved with panels of horses' teeth ground even, framed in marble. The initials of Charles, 2nd Duke of Richmond, and of his wife Sarah, are introduced into the decoration. The necessary repairs which were made by the late Duke were carried out in shells left over from the original work.

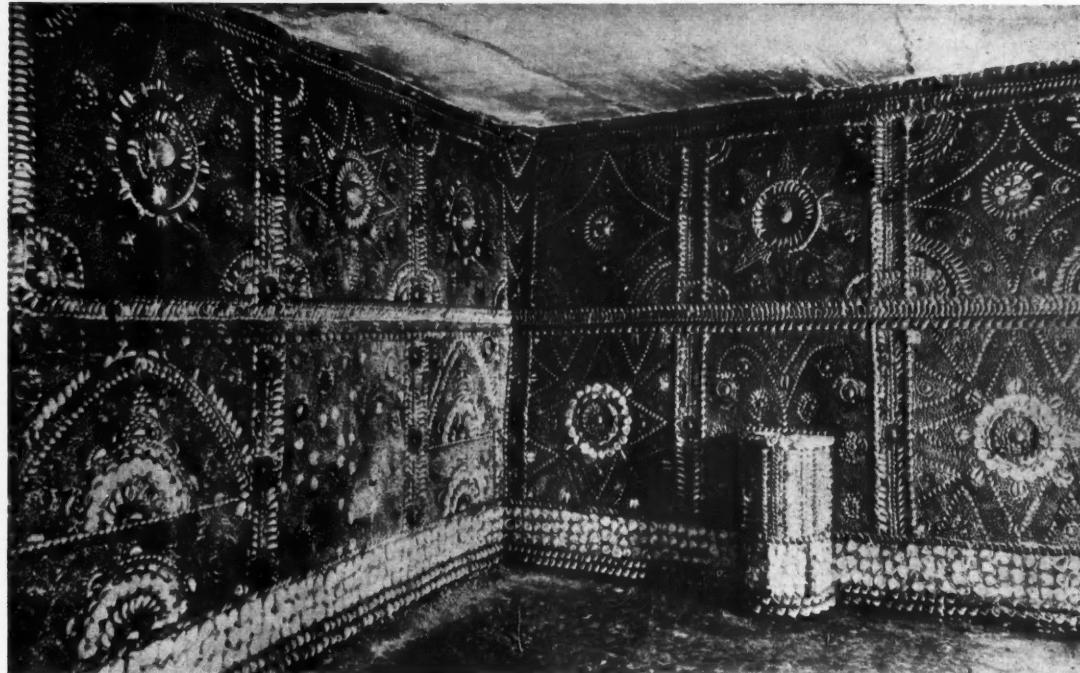
There is no such definite date handed down in the case of the shell room at Mereworth. In this room in the Eastern pavilion, the work is remarkably skilful, rising to a climax in the surround of the chimney mirror on the west wall, where great free-standing cranes, such as were carried out in the contemporary carvers' pieces, hold up swags of flowers depending in graceful curves from an arch. The dolphins below are as skilfully modelled in the round. In the frieze, again, dolphins figure, alternating with shells. The pavilion containing the shell room was built after 1736, and the shell decoration (which dates from the lifetime of John, 7th Earl of Westmorland) is mid-Georgian in character.

In the small house at Exmouth, A la Ronde, which can take its place among the minor curiosities of architecture, shellwork is limited to a staircase and the gallery surrounding the octagonal hall. In the gallery, shellwork is combined with featherwork. A collection of

shells (perhaps left over from this amazing decoration) is contained in a cabinet in the library. The site of A la Ronde was bought in 1795 by the Misses Parmenter, and the shell decoration dates from the completion of the house.

The shellwork of the Margate grotto is later in date than the Mereworth and Goodwood work, and differs from them in being subterranean and accessible only by an underground passage hewn in the chalk. The passage to the grotto (which is situated in the Dene, a valley running from the sea, about half a mile inland) leads first to the rotunda, and then through an arch to a serpentine passage encrusted with shellwork. At its further end is the rectangular chamber, decorated with shell-work in square panels above a low dado. The

panels have simple geometrical and floral patterns; and there are two projections (also faced with shells) and a partly blocked arch. There has been some entertaining controversy about the date of this grotto, which would "make a temple fit for dedication to Naryana, the King of Shells." A Victorian novelist attributed it to "the Vikings," but shellwork is not a likely occupation for the sea kings. Mr. Charles Knight, writing about the middle of the nineteenth century in *The Land We Live In*, had reason to believe that the work dated from about 1820-30, and was the work of "an ingenious artisan of Margate, who some years ago emigrated to America." It is to be hoped that it may be acquired by Margate and preserved among the many attractions of that watering-place.



MARGATE, KENT. A SUBTERRANEAN GROTTO CONSISTING OF A RECTANGULAR CHAMBER APPROACHED BY A TWISTING PASSAGE AND ROTUNDA. ABOUT 1820-30



(Left) MARGATE.  
Detail of rotunda  
probably about  
1820-30

(Right)  
A LA RONDE,  
EXMOUTH  
Shell and feather-  
work in the gallery.  
About 1800



## COBHAM, KENT—IV

## COBHAM COLLEGE

*A prototype of College quadrangles, the College was originally built in 1370 for chaplains serving the Cobham chantry in the adjacent church; it was refounded as almshouses in 1596-97.*

By CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY

HIRAM'S HOSPITAL, Barchester, was perhaps exceptional in the amlessness of its endowments, which led to all Mr. Harding's troubles as its Warden. But its picturesque court, bordered by the cottages of the bedesmen, is typical, at least to all readers of Trollope, of those venerable institutions for the maintenance of the aged which can be found in every respectable town. Cobham College, while no less typical in many respects, yet differs patently in being on the edge of a quiet country village (a characteristic which it shares with the lovely brick of the court of God's House at Ewelme); and in its belonging, architecturally as well as in name, to the *genus* "college" rather than that of "hospital." As such its buildings are an interesting forecast in miniature of the educational colleges so many of which were instituted a few years after it was founded.

Cobham College was founded in 1362, and has retained much of its original buildings and its name in spite of having never been devoted to education. In fact, at the time when it was founded, the term had not yet been applied to a society of scholars but meant a foundation of priests for the service



1.—THE COLLEGE FROM THE SOUTH, WITH THE HALL PORCH

of a chantry, church, or cathedral. Of that kind are the Colleges of Vicars Choral at Wells (1368) and Hereford, and this College of St. Mary at Cobham. The earlier educational foundations, such as Merton and Balliol, were not called colleges but halls, houses, or, elsewhere, inns. The term was apparently not given to university foundations till the great educational epoch initiated by William of Wykeham's foundation of New College in 1379, and even that was really a college of clergy in the old sense, but with special aims in connection with study; Winchester and Eton similarly, were colleges, not because they educated boys, but because they provided for a foundation of canons and fellows to provide that education.

Sir John de Cobham's original charter of foundation has disappeared, but his purpose in founding Cobham College is set forth clearly enough in a decree of the Bishop of Rochester 20 years later, to the effect that Sir John, "inflamed with pious zeal, and wishing to change earthly for heavenly things, had founded in the parish church of Cobham, in which his ancestors had chosen their place of burial, a perpetual chantry in which there should be for ever five chaplains (later augmented to seven), making a College there and serving for ever in divine offices, of whom one should be the Master appointed by the Prior of St. Saviour's, Bermondsey," to whom the church belonged. The Master was to discharge the duties of vicar of the parish. The foundation was amply endowed with estates, including, besides a good deal of Cobham and adjacent manors, the parsonage of Rolvenden on

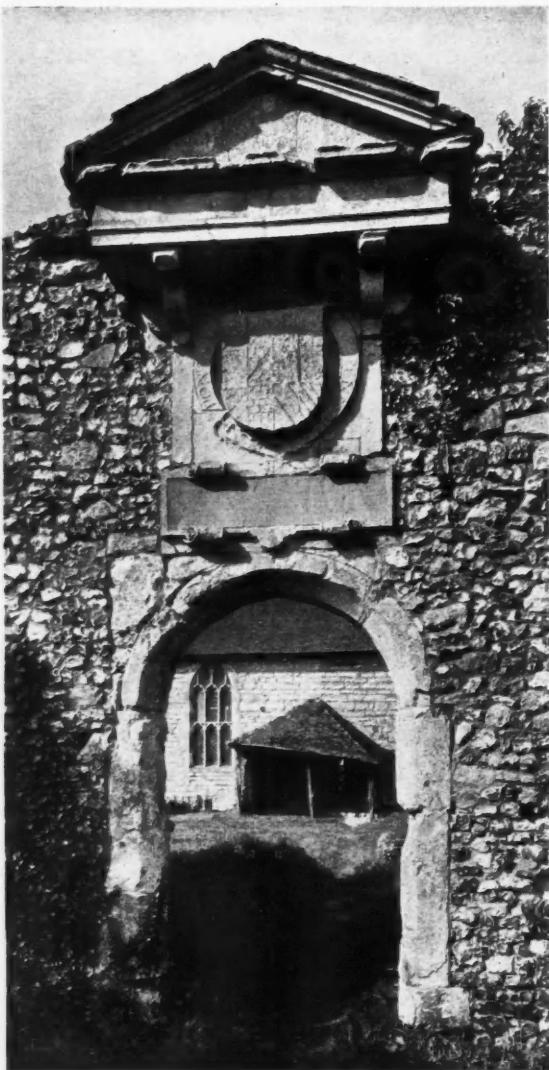
the other side of the Weald. The whole produced an income in 1534 which has been estimated at £2,500 at pre-1914 values.

The College, converted and altered at the end of the sixteenth century to its present use as an almshouse, still preserves much of its 14th-century character. It is tucked away behind the church, on the brow of the ridge, looking southward across the downland, and consists of a complete quadrangle with traces of another court lying southwards. Entry to this outer court is, to-day, through the Renaissance gateway (Fig. 2) put up by the executors of the 10th Lord Cobham when the College was refounded in 1596-98. Through it are seen the College hall and the exceedingly rustic porch to the hall and cellar. A certain John London was paid 7s. in February, 1615,

for carpenters worke on the Porch of the South syde of the College, new reapinge of the same in the ground cells, panchions, postes, shores, & rafters.

It seems that he was responsible for its eccentric tilt, which is not due to any settlement. As the main work of alteration had been done 15 years earlier, the porch was an afterthought, and, it may be, erected particularly against easterly winds whistling round the corner of the College. Wherefore it may have been tilted as one battling against a storm holds an umbrella down into the wind to prevent its being blown away.

Although the College was founded in 1362, its buildings were not undertaken till after 1370. Then, we saw last week, the great Henry Yevele may have been the architect of this prototype of college quadrangles. Where did the canons live meanwhile, for they must have had some habitation where they could lead their community life near to the church? Mr. Aymer Vallance (*Archæologia Cantiana*, XLIII) has suggested they may have used the ancient building in the village street, at the north-east corner of the churchyard, known variously as the Stone House and the Old



(Left) 2.—THE GATEWAY SET UP IN 1598. With the memorial to William Lord Cobham, the second founder

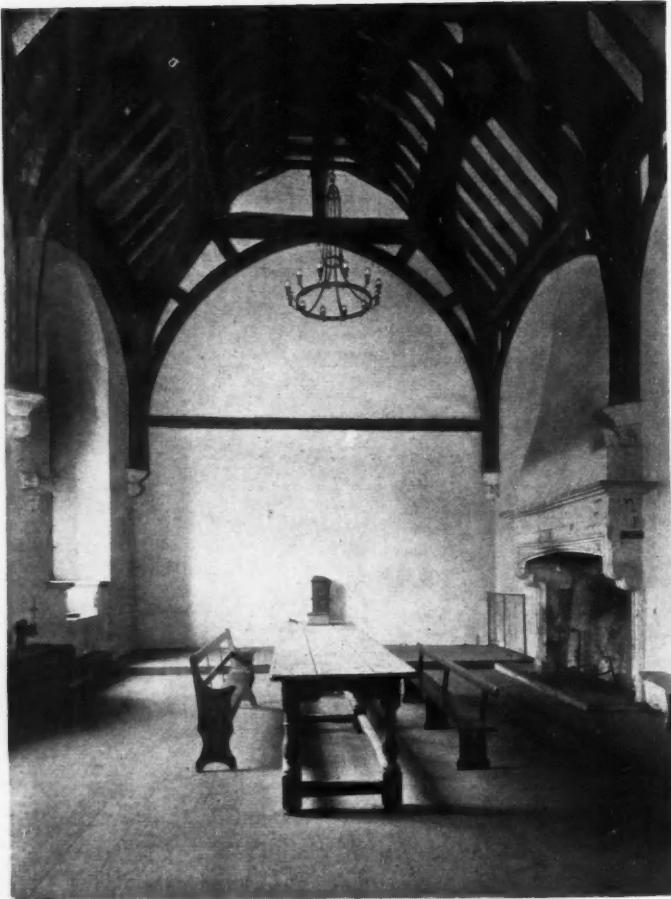


3.—FROM THE CHURCHYARD

The archway carried a covered bridge to the church over a thoroughfare; the chimneys were added in 1598.



4.—QUADRANGLE AND CHURCH TOWER, FROM THE HALL



5.—THE HALL, BUILT IN 1370



6.—THE HALL FIREPLACE (c. 1460)

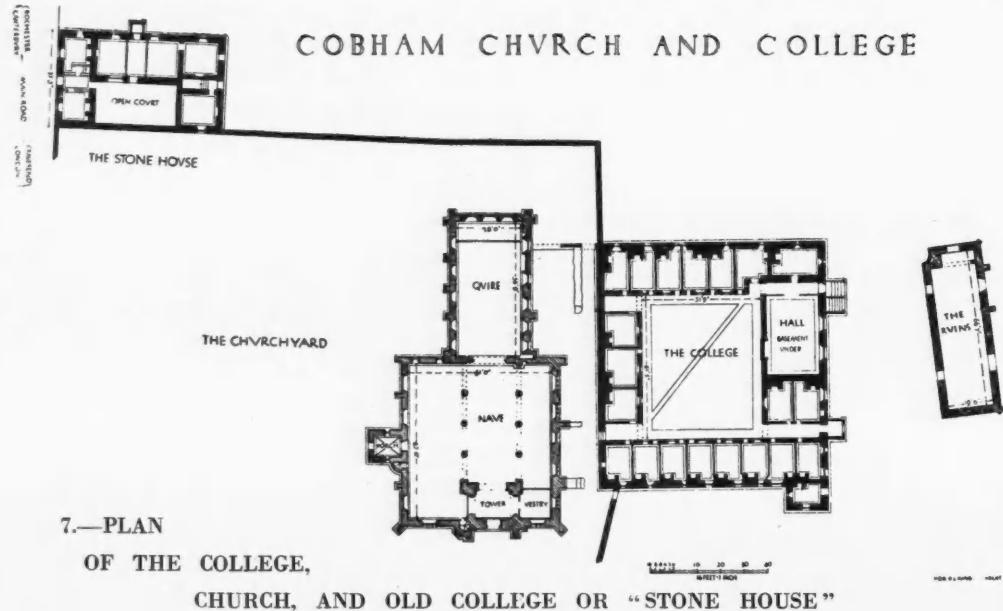
College (Fig. 8). Though much altered, this appears to be a hall house with flanking wings. If the brick-mullioned windows seen in the photograph, and largely restoration work of the nineteenth century, reproduce originals, they point to the house having been altered in the fifteenth century. By then the number of collegiate priests had increased to 11, which must have produced some overcrowding in the College. It is possible, therefore, that the "old college" was fitted up then as a residence for the Master, though there are no records of his having had separate quarters. The old building makes a picturesque group with the churchyard cross erected in 1895 to the 6th Earl of Darnley.

In 1370 the Master and Brethren, "desiring to erect suitable houses and buildings, equal in extent with the length of the Church on the south side of the same, and on the site then occupied by the parish cemetery," applied to the Prior and Convent of Bermondsey, owners of the advowson, for licence to build. It was granted with the express proviso "that the procession way on the south side of the church as is accustomed, may for ever be open and preserved to the parishioners, especially at the time of Matins, Mass, and Vespers, so that the said way may not be impeded."

The living part taken in village life by processions and the churchyard was indicated

last week. Hence this proviso and the alleyway between quadrangle and church. It is spanned at its east end by a four-centred arch (Fig. 3) which carried a bridge or covered way communicating with a newel stair at the north-east angle of the choir, which in part survives. The bridge may have been reached from the College by a covered staircase rising against the wall from what appears to have been the main entrance at the north-east corner of the quadrangle, though it is now closed. The present entrance from the church side is at the north-west angle (Fig. 4), from which the College hall or refectory lies diagonally opposite.

The refectory is a beautiful and little-altered instance of a domestic hall of the late fourteenth century. The roof, of three bays, has arched braces supporting the collar-beams and themselves resting on stone corbels. On the south side are two lofty windows containing stone window seats above the floor level, and on the north a fireplace with corbelled hood (Figs. 5 and 6). This was evidently inserted later, as the chimney rather clumsily dodges one of the roof corbels. It can scarcely be so late as the foundation of the almshouses, so is probably of 15th-century date, perhaps about 1460. The Cobham crest is carved in one of the spandrels. Till its insertion the hall probably had no fire, since the floor is a wooden one over the cellar below, and there's no sign of a louvre in the roof, or any blackening of the rafters by smoke. A brazier could have given warmth in winter. Above



the fireplace can be seen a window with its original wooden shutters, used before the introduction of glass windows. The screen at the entrance end has disappeared, being replaced by a partly-glazed partition.

Unlike most chantries and other foundations of the kind, Cobham College was not forcibly suppressed at the Reformation. The Master and chaplains seem to have foreseen the ruin confronting them and voluntarily sold everything to George, Lord Cobham, in 1537. The College was formally dissolved and disbanded, the buildings left unoccupied. But William, Lord Cobham, the builder of Cobham Hall, on his death in March, 1596, bequeathed £2,000 and directed in his will that his executors should re-edify the "ruins" and refound the College as almshouses for 20 aged poor. The work was to be carried out in four years, and towards it he had already provided 100,000 bricks. He further bequeathed 40 tons of timber for the purpose. The executors were so prompt in fulfilling the trust that, as the memorial tablet over the gate informs us, the work was finished in September, 1598. It has been generally supposed that the existing quadrangle, except for the hall, is of this date. But, as Mr. Vallance has pointed out, the quadrangle is of stone, the four-centred heads of its doorways are consistent with its building in 1370, and the short time taken for the "re-edifying" would scarcely suffice for it to have been built from the ground. Moreover, the bequest of bricks and timber suggests that all that was then needed was new roofs and partitions and the addition of the chimneys. Beside the gateway to the south court of the College are considerable remains of other buildings, including a capacious fireplace. There is no record of its original purpose. The probability is that, as the original five had grown to 11 chaplains by the sixteenth century, extra accommodation was needed, being provided here by, perhaps, timber-framed buildings which have disappeared, except for some stone-built portions.

The administration of the "New College of Cobham" was vested in the Wardens of Rochester Bridge, "which be continually chosen of such persons as be of great estimation and credit in the county," and who constitute a body corporate of Presidents of the College. The bridge, with the old chapel and an imposing lion on it, adorns the seal of the New College, in place of the figure of the Blessed Virgin used for the old one and of which the Protestant executor of Lord Cobham evidently did not approve. The most active of them, it is interesting to note, was William Lambarde whose black-letter *Perambulation of Kent* is the earliest of all county histories. Pensioners must have lived in Cobham or certain adjacent parishes for at least three years, be able to say the Lord's Prayer, the articles of Christian belief, and the Ten Commandments, and be "no common swearer, none adulterer, no thief or hedge-breaker, no common drunkard." Nor may they haunt any tippling-house within two miles of the College, nor keep tippling within it, and are to maintain their own glass windows. In the early eighteenth century the parishes entitled to elect pensioners sent only the more dissolute and obnoxious characters, whom they wished to get rid of, and the presidents, including the Vicar, were usually gentlemen who lived at a distance, so that little discipline was maintained. It was Dr. Thorpe, who became a president in 1734, who drew up, and enforced, the present rules of admission. Needless to say, looking at the photograph in Fig. 9, they are carefull observed to-day! The group of pensioners shown with the Vicar, the Rev. James Butler, was taken after nine o'clock service in the College Hall, at which the special prayer is always used beginning "God save His church universal, our gracious sovereign King George, the Queen and councillors, the presidents of this College and the whole clergy and commonalty of Cobham."



8.—THE OLD COLLEGE, OR "STONE HOUSE," WITH THE MEMORIAL TO THE 6th EARL OF DARNLEY



9.—PENSIONERS, WITH THE REV. JAMES BUTLER, VICAR OF COBHAM. Taken after 9 o'clock service in College Hall



10.—TWO OF THE ENTRANCES TO THE QUADRANGLE, WITH TYPICAL LATE 14th-CENTURY DOORWAYS

# CAN THE OLD CALEDONIAN FOREST BE SAVED?

Written and Illustrated by SETON GORDON

**F**ROM Ardgour and Lochiel's lonely forest of Achnacarry (lately ravaged by fire) east through the head of Glen Orchy to the Black Wood of Rannoch are seen the remnants of the old Caledonian Forest. It is not until Strathspey and Upper Deeside are reached that the most extensive and unspoilt areas of these grand pine trees—for the forest is mainly of pines—are found. In Glen Feshie—alas! that the tense should now be in the past—was one of the most noble and picturesque woods, centuries old. The hand of war has as yet rested lightly on the Forest of Mar and on the Ballochbuie Forest across the Cairngorms eastward, though even here the woodman's axe has been busy.

War needs are imperative, yet perhaps it were wise to spare as much as possible of the old forest. There are still many planted woods, less attractive because the trees are closely grown and there is an absence of undergrowth; and the wild life which accompanies that undergrowth of heather and juniper, cowberry and blaeberry. It should be possible to fell these woods before ruining the beauty of the old native forest.

In the last war many of the native pines felled in one glen where the trees were farther than usual from the nearest sawmill were left to bleach where they lay: I often saw them during the years following the war, and they may be there yet.

The old Caledonian Forest is a priceless legacy from the past: once felled it would be gone for ever, for there is no comparison between it and the trees with which it might be replanted.

For many thousands of years the forest has persisted; the trees have been self-sown from one generation to another. There is here no unsightly appearance of planting; the trees are well spaced, with strong branches down the boles almost to the ground.

To what elevation above sea level does the old forest extend? At the present day pines are found just touching the 2,000-ft. contour line in Glen Quoich and Glen Derry. Both these glens are in Mar Forest in the Central Highlands, far distant from either the Atlantic or the North Sea; toward the western seaboard the limit of tree-growth is nothing like so high.

But in olden days the Caledonian Forest extended to ground that is considerably higher. Near the western "march" of the Forest of Mar is a wild and very lonely glen, now treeless. Its name is Glen Giusachan, Glen of the Pines, showing that when its name was given to it there were notable trees here. At the head of Glen Giusachan, where the peat has weathered, are seen exposed the roots and stumps of trees which must have been noble in their prime. The elevation here is 2,300 ft., and the nearest



1.—SPIRAL GROWTH OF AN OLD PINE IN AN EXPOSED POSITION

pines (and they are very old trees) are at least six miles to the east.

The highest Scotch pine growing in Scotland is, I believe, a small tree in a wild corrie at the heart of the Cairngorms, by name the Garra-chory or, in English, the Rough Corrie. The tree—if it be there still, for I have not seen it for a number of years—is only a few feet high, yet may be very old, for its height may be limited by the depth of snow in the corrie during the months of winter. Were it to emerge above the snow-cap during severe weather its branches would in all probability be devoured by deer or hares, for, since it is the only tree in the corrie, it would be a conspicuous object. At a distance of perhaps three miles from that tree I found a small larch growing on steep, rocky ground at a height of almost 3,000 ft. above the sea.

It is believed that great tracts of the old Caledonian Forest were deliberately destroyed by fire because of the wolves which lived secure in that fastness and were a terror to the inhabitants of the outlying glens. Northward across the Cairngorms from Mar are the lands of Badenoch, where treeless bogs are full of tree-stumps. The tradition of that country is that, in the sixteenth century, Queen Mary ordered

fire to be put to the old forest and from Sron na Baruinn above Glen Feshie watched it burn. But much of the forest had probably disappeared before Queen Mary's time.

There is an old Sutherland story, scarcely known at the present day, that the King of Norway was jealous of the pine woods of the Highland glens, and sent a supernatural creature in the form of a *cailleach* or old woman to fire them. The hag rained down fire upon the trees, all the time keeping her unwelcome person concealed in a dense cloud of smoke in which she floated

invisibly. Unchecked she burned the forest from Sutherland southward through Ross and the northern districts of Inverness and had reached the Badenoch country when a wise man of the district put an end to her career. He gathered all the sheep and cattle of the district and separated the cows from their calves, the sheep from their lambs, the mares from their foals. The uproar which then arose was indescribable, sheep and lambs calling one another, cattle lowing for their calves, mares neighing for their foals. When the uproar was at its height the witch felt impelled to put her head out from her smoke-screen. The wise man had taken the precaution of loading his gun with a silver sixpence, against which a warlock had no protection: he fired and down fell the hag lifeless at his feet.

Thus were spared the pine forests of Glen Feshie, Rothiemurchus and Glen More—forests which still beautify the slopes on which they grow.

That the native Highland pines are better able to withstand the storms of the winter than planted woods was well shown at the New Year of 1943. Two gales following closely on each other were experienced in the Central Highlands. At the height of one of those storms I was walking through a spruce wood (the spruce is not a native of Scotland) and all around me trees were falling; others were swayed by the wind until they assumed an almost horizontal position remarkable, almost uncanny, to see. In the morning hundreds of trees were uprooted. But when, a short time afterwards, I visited the old native pines in the neighbouring glens I saw not a single tree down. Yet the gale in these exposed places must have raged still more furiously, for great limbs had been wrenched off the trees and lay on the heather below.

At long intervals comes a storm so severe that even the old pines are swept away in its blast. No storm has made any impression on the native woods since November, 1893. That hurricane came from the north, and in certain glens and on certain hillsides of the Forest of Mar scarcely a tree was left standing. Old stalkers now, alas! gone have told me that this was the most severe gale experienced in living memory and exceeded in its violence the storm which caused the Tay Bridge disaster. The great trees lie where they fell long ago. They are bleached like skeletons, as indeed they are, yet the durability of the wood is so great that it has defied the hand of time.

In Fig. 1 is seen a very old pine which shows well the botanical phenomenon known as spiral growth. It will be seen that the trunk of the



2.—REMNANTS OF THE CALEDONIAN FOREST—2,000 FT. UP, WHERE NO TREES NOW GROW

tree is straight and erect, but that the wood has been laid on spirally and not vertically. This spiral growth is to give the tree additional strength.

What is the age of the pines of the Caledonian Forest? One day when I was in the Ballochbuie Forest on Upper Deeside I came upon three pines which had been felled. There was nothing particularly remarkable about them, and doubtless older and finer specimens were in the neighbourhood, but I amused myself by counting the annular rings on the stumps—rings which, grown each summer, faithfully tell a tree's age. I found that one of the trees was 220 years old, a second 214, and the third 205.

The pines on the north—that is the Inverness-shire—slopes and foot-hills of the Cairngorms are not generally so old as those in the Forests of Mar and Ballochbuie on the south side of that hill range. More felling was done on these northern slopes in the past, and there was a race of men known as the Spey floaters who guided the felled trees, stripped of their branches, down the Spey to the sea at Fochabers, where the timber was stacked and sold, to be transported later by sailing vessel. Miss Grant of Rothiemurchus in her classic *Memoirs of a Highland Lady* gives a clear account of the Spey floaters and their hard life. The remains of the old pack-roads, which loosed the artificial spates in the hill streams and released a flood-power sufficient to carry the pines down to the Spey, can be seen still in the Rothiemurchus district. One of them is at the mouth of Loch Morlich, which lies in a deep hollow between Braeriach and Sgoran Dubh; another is at the mouth of Loch Morlich, in the shadow of Cairngorm.



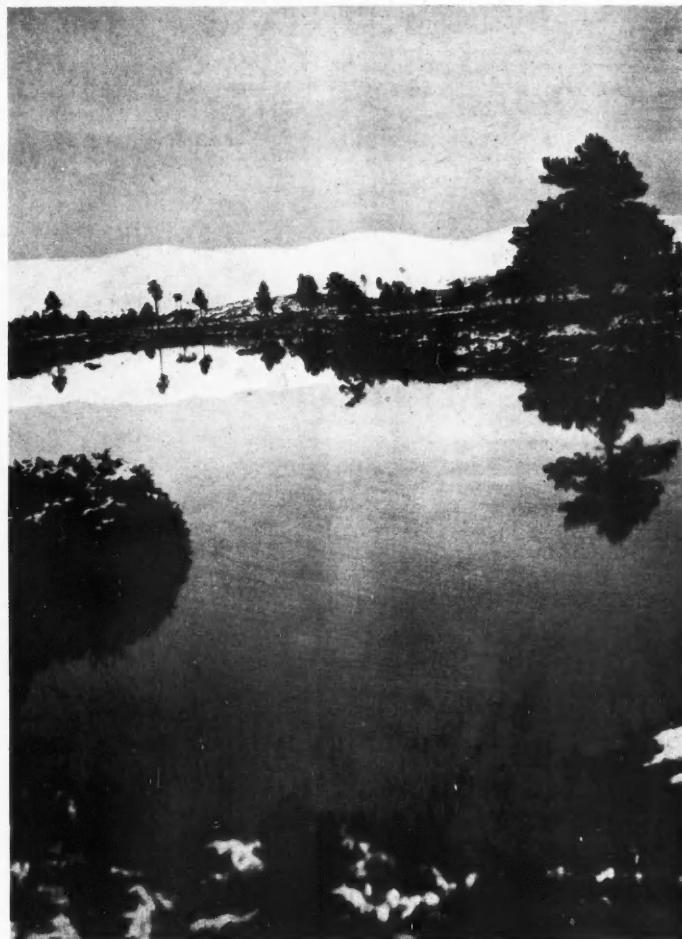
3.—SEVERAL GOLDEN EAGLES' EYRIES ARE BUILT IN THIS OLD SCOTCH PINE

Some authorities believe that the native pines of the Caledonian Forest are of a different race from those now planted in Britain. The native pines are more red in the bark, more resinous; the wood is hard, solid and of a fine grain. There is also to be seen among them the weeping pine, a stately and beautiful tree with pendulous branches. This is uncommon, and still more rare is a variety in which the needles are golden, or gold and green. That variety I have seen only twice.

In the old pines the golden eagle still nests (Fig. 3), though there are fewer eyries now than when first I knew the forest. In trees which still live the goshawk and the kite long ago reared their young. I remember being shown when a boy an old kite's nest in the fork of a pine, but the goshawk has been extinct for at least a century, although Thornton, writing in 1804, mentions that in his day there were still "some eyries of goshawks in Glen More and Rothiemurchos forests, but this hawk is very rare."

The small and sprightly crested titmouse is a native of certain areas of the Caledonian Forest: its chief haunts are in upper Strathspey and it is curious that it should be unknown in the old woods of upper Deeside, the two forests, as a bird flies, being less than 20 miles apart.

Red deer live in the forest and where they are numerous eat the young seedlings, but there are areas where, below the old trees, their children grow strong and green in the heather. In summer pollen drifts mist-like on the breeze from the male flowers; the sun draws from the pines a strong resinous scent. In their branches the cuckoo calls; high above them gleam the snowfields of the Cairngorms. It is even now not too late to preserve the old forest. Let us treasure it; it is a gift from the past, and will give happiness to unborn generations.



4.—LOCH AN EILEIN AFTER A SPRING SNOWFALL



5.—ONE OF THE OLDEST PINES IN THE FOREST

# LIVING IN THE COUNTRY

By JAMES THORPE

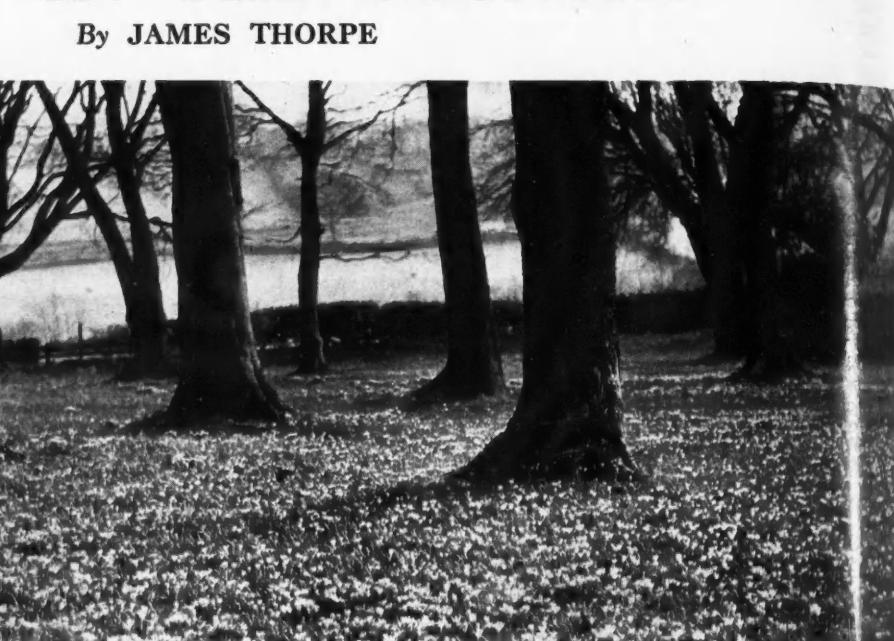
He drew no philosophy from Nature, no opinions or ideas, no proposals for reform, but only the vision to live happily and healthily and simply himself.—EDWARD THOMAS: *The South Country*.

**F**OR some reason it is customary to regard those of us who live in the country as rather peculiar, a little eccentric and decidedly foolish. Those sympathetic friends in towns who are particularly sorry for us in the winter appear not to know that, in spite of shorter days, this is for us the most beautiful, interesting and peaceful time of the year. Never was pity more misplaced and unnecessary.

It is difficult to understand why it should be considered remarkable, or even daring, to spend one's days in quiet and freedom, in fresh air and clean sunshine, under a wide, unpolluted sky, among trees and birds and fields, and in sight of the ever-changing beauty and friendly inspiration of the hills. Surely it is more abnormal to be enclosed in warrens of concrete and iron, surrounded by millions of other victims, to exist in continual noise and an atmosphere charged with exhaust fumes from engines.

Life in the country is neither Arcadian, romantic, dull nor monotonous; it is real. Our wants are few, and our simple delights easily gratified. Not only are we not bored by lack of occupation, but we shall never find time to do all the things we hope to do. If we are so inclined, we have at our disposal easy facilities for all forms of sport and games, and we can sleep soundly in restful quiet at night.

We can enjoy the clean scent of the wind and all the pleasant country smells; of the wood fire (especially of oak or apple wood) and the autumn garden bonfire, of a warm June night, of wet earth and trees on a sunny morning, of sweet briar after rain in the hedge around a hayfield, of a pipe of shag on a frosty morning, of woods in the autumn, of newly washed clothes, of beanfields, stables, wallflowers, sweet peas, Madonna lilies, stocks, lavender, rosemary and all the perfumes of the garden. We can admire the beauty of willow trees at all seasons of the year and the placid dignity of the cow,



GAILY-COLOURED CROCUSES MAKE THE BARE COUNTRYSIDE BEAUTIFUL

a silent, protesting commentary on the silly, fevered existence of the human race.

Nor in these days of easy transit and the B.C. do we have the opportunity to be lonely. The man who comes to live in a quiet village in order to work undisturbed often has to invent stories of damp walls, absence of drains and incorrect moral standards in order to preserve his seclusion. And things do really happen in the country—simple things perhaps, but to the childish mind as interesting as the crises of the greater world. Where else, for example, could one have a load of firewood delivered in a trailer, hitched to the most expensive of cars by an obliging visitor?

Just before Christmas we watch the golden hazel catkins come suddenly in the hedges. Glowing in the sun, against a background of blue sky, they recall the glories of a Japanese print. Early in the new year the snowdrops appear, miraculously delicate and frail for such hard weather. Then come the crocuses, gaily coloured, and the golden, dancing daffodils, which here they call "Lent lilies," that have

been pushing up their strong, fresh green spear-heads since November.

The birds begin to sing in January, whatever the weather, and, as the days lengthen in February, we start work again in the garden after tea. In March the myriad primroses and the celandine, like powdered sulphur, sprinkle the hedges and hillsides, and a few scattered days of sudden intense brightness reassure us of the sun's warmth. At the bottom of the slope, where they are ploughing, a strip of young grass remains, a vivid patch of bright emerald green, far more brilliant than the painter's palette can match.

In April the promise of the lanes and the distant hills lures us out and up on to the moor, which, like a vast sponge, retains its winter moisture until well into summer. The falling elm blossom, golden green, makes even tarmaced roads beautiful and forecasts the later shimmering showers of pink and white in the May orchards. A pale, delicious ground-mist of orchids floats lightly along the sides of the road, up over the banks and into the dimness of the wood. On an open hillside above a stream there are acres of them, but they look best among the mossy grey of the rocks and the tree-trunks, whose purple shadows add a relieving variety of colour. As the wind sways them, a few remaining primroses show through and the pushing fronds of the young bracken, which in turn will submerge the bluebells.

The meadows by the river are spattered with yellow irises, and there are columbines to be found in the hedges, both looking like delicate aristocrats that have strayed unconsciously among the more sturdy field flowers. The dog-rose, badge of Tudor England, floats gaily on the hedges above the purple, stately spikes of the foxgloves, the noblest of all the English wild flowers.

So generous is the display in the June hedgerows that our trim patches of garden are made to look almost self-consciously artificial.

August is perhaps the least interesting month, and ironically it is then that the townsfolk see the country. The summer growth is fulfilled in the gold of the corn harvest, but everything else is monotonous and opaquely green. The roadside and hedges are dishevelled and disfigured with rubbish, the garden is choked and



THE COW'S PLACID DIGNITY IS A COMMENTARY ON THE FEVERED EXISTENCE OF THE HUMAN RACE

out of hand, like a jungle, and the nobility of autumn has not yet come. September, with its pleasant bitter smell of morning frost and fallen leaves and its mellow horizontal light, ushers in the golden glory, which reaches its fullest magnificence of colour in October and November, unless the gales come early to strip the gay finery from the trees. The wanton tangle in the garden must be ruthlessly cleared and the unwanted growth cut away and destroyed, so that the earth may be opened up to receive the rigorous benefit of frost and snow. There is at first a feeling of sadness, of departed grandeur, of desecration by our kindly, generous friend the sun, and when our extra hour of daylight is suddenly wrenched from us, we realise that we are back once again in the season of rough winds and lashing showers, of lamp-lit evenings and the comforts of the fireside.

There is no such sharp distinction between

the seasons as there is in towns; they merge imperceptibly one into another. Before the Michaelmas daisies have finished blooming, the bright yellow jasmine comes to cheer us, welcomes gaily our invitation into the house and lasts on bravely until the snowdrops once more appear.

But winter is by no means the period of unrelieved gloom that our sympathetic friend in the town imagines. Nature's colouring is much more subtly varied and beautiful than at any other season of the year. Often there are days of crisp air and bright sunshine, shorter certainly, but as delightful as any in summer and more invigorating; breezy, blustering days, when we come in from our walk, with well-filled lungs and tingling faces, to the joys of tea and hot toast, the cheerful blaze of the wood fire and the soft golden light of the lamp.

So the year passes. We have the vast, undimmed splendour of the sky by day and the exquisite loveliness of the moon by night, the most beautiful of all "floodlighting." On a clear day we can see the sun dip below the western hill in golden grandeur and, facing about, find the moon rising against a cold, cloud-flecked, silver-grey sky.

Indoors are many jobs awaiting our attention, which the laziness of the summer days has persuaded us to leave over. There are books to dust, re-arrange, dip into and read again, pictures, prints and etchings to catalogue and collate, furniture to overhaul and repair, chests and cupboards to explore and reduce to order, brass and pewter to clean, and the many other delights of pottering, which are never completed before the long days and outdoor life are upon us again. . . . Somehow we do not find the country dull.

## TWO ON A DIVISION

A Golf Commentary by BERNARD DARWIN

**O**ll the strokes in golf those which call for the greatest resolution, first in the decision to play them and then in the playing of them, are surely those which, as we say, count two on a division. The golfer in making up his mind employs in effect the method adopted by Morris Finsbury in *The Wrong Box*, of the parallel columns. First in the "Good" column he writes: "If I go for this carry and get on to the green I shall win the hole and be two up"; then in the "Bad" column: "But if I don't get over—it is a beast of a bunker—I shall very likely take two to get out and be only all square." Whether he decides to play short in the tolerably secure hope of remaining one up or whether he goes for the gloves, he will be haunted, even while addressing the ball, in the one case by the suspicion that he is a fool and in the other that he is a coward. The desirable concentration of what he is pleased to call his mind on strict business will be peculiarly difficult.

Perhaps an even more agonising instance is the problem of going out to loft a stymie or tamely accepting the situation and putting to one side. Stymies vary greatly in difficulty and some, when we set the balls for ourselves, on a nice grassy lawn with nothing depending on it and no one to look at us, are positively easy; we accomplish the pitch with triumphant deftness. But very few stymies are easy in a match and they are beyond question the devil and all when failure almost inevitably means the knocking the other fellow in and losing the hole we ought to have won. Circumstances alter cases and no courage is needed to go for it when our case is rapidly approaching the desperate. Conversely, he is a fool who takes a big risk when he has a really comfortable lead. But when the match is a close-run thing, when we have perhaps just got our noses in front and another hole would be worth fine gold, then it is a problem indeed.

\* \* \*

If we take the risk and succeed the result is likely to be far-reaching, both for our enemy and ourselves. We feel as brave as a lion for having dared and dared successfully and, which is almost equally important, we have shown the enemy that we are not afraid of him, that we believe we can afford what is in effect the loss of two holes and yet pull through. If on the other hand we make a mess of it and knock him in, the evening remorse will be very hard to exorcise. We shall be harping on our greed and our folly, and there are few more disastrous frames of mind than that which expresses itself in the unfinished exclamation: "If only I hadn't . . .".

I have been trying to recall such stymies on big occasions, when the decision has clearly been difficult and the result of boldness correspondingly great. One comes to mind from probably the most famous of all the tussles between Miss Leitch and Miss Wethered, in the final of the Ladies' Championship at Troon in 1932. It had been a desperate struggle all day; Miss Leitch, playing with magnificent dash, had been three up at the turn in the

morning, and Miss Wethered, with the sternest resolution, had pulled her back to all square at lunch. The fight had been equally close in the afternoon; and going to the ninth hole Miss Leitch was one up, her opponent had a shortish putt to win, but she was stymied. In such a hard-fought match the risk of being two down with nine to play was a grave one, but Miss Wethered went out for the stroke and pitched the stymie, and the effect during the next six holes or so was palpable. Owing to a most courageous finish by Miss Leitch, Miss Wethered only won in the end at the thirty-seventh as all the world knows, but, even so, the value of that stymie lofted no one can estimate.

My other example—I believe I have cited it somewhere before—comes from earlier history, from the Amateur Championship at Sandwich in 1900. Mr. Maxwell had just won the St. George's Cup, he was playing the most obviously

### SWANS FLYING

*A WINTER dawn: under a pallid sky  
The workers standing by the bus stop crouch  
Against the bleak north wind. The bus goes by.  
"Full up!" "No room!" They stamp their feet  
and slouch*

*Under the blackened tree, whose branches shed  
Raindrops and shrivelled leaves. The empty street  
Yawns idly—till the tired sky overhead  
Sudden throbs with sound: the measured beat  
Of strong, relentless wings. Two swans are flying  
With outstretched necks into the north wind, far  
Above the rooftops. Lifted eyes, descrying  
Their wild flight lighten, and a silver star  
Shines through the narrow walls of every day.  
There is freedom up in the air—and thoughts may  
follow*

*Into the watery wastes where rushes sway  
And willows fringe the dim, enchanted hollow  
Where the swans nest. Oh, further still the mind  
May follow, to a world of fairy laughter  
Where swans are princes, and all journeys find  
Fairy-tale end, in "happy ever after."*

FREDA C. BOND.

formidable golf of any one there and in an early round he and Mr. Hilton met. Going to the Maiden, which is the sixth hole, Mr. Hilton was one up and he had a short putt to win the hole and be two up, but—again comes that crucial but—he was dead and stymied and his opponent's ball was so near the hole that to touch it must be to knock it in. "In addition," he wrote in his reminiscences, "to the actual loss of the hole there was also the moral effect to take into account as, although the match was still in its comparative infancy, it was certainly at a critical stage." Well, he took the manful course, lofted the stymie, holed a good putt to win the next hole too, won the match comfortably at the fifteenth and won the Championship. There could hardly be a better "cautionary tale" against too much caution and in favour of boldness.

In all such cases much, perhaps everything, depends on the player's frame of mind and his

belief in his power of making the stroke. One of the most famous of brassey shots was that to carry the Dun bunker at the then seventeenth hole at Hoylake in the final between Mr. John Ball and Mr. Mure Ferguson. After all was over—and that shot, humanly speaking, decided the issue—Mr. Ball asked Mr. Horace Hutchinson whether he had been right to go for it. "Certainly," was the answer, "if you felt like it." There could be no better answer, and I think it would be equally true to say that it would be unwise for a player to go for such a carry if he did not feel like it. Moreover we cannot force our feelings in such matters; a false confidence is of no use.

\* \* \*

The question is likely to arise in a peculiarly difficult form in a foursome. A. who has not got to play the stroke, whatever it may be, is perhaps all for boldness, but he cannot instil this confidence into his partner B, who has got to play it and in that case caution had better prevail. I recall an example from my own modest history to point this moral. It was in the foursomes in an international match at St. Andrews; on the ninth green my side had quite a short putt to be one up and there was our opponent's obtrusive ball in the way. To me it did not look a difficult pitch and I urged my partner to go for it, but he did not like the look of it and demurred. Seeing his state of mind I ought clearly to have said at once that he was quite right and I was quite wrong, that it was an almost impossible shot and that of course he must not attempt it. That would have bolstered him up and we should have got our halved hole and been reasonably content with it. As it was I took refuge in the advice "Do whatever you like." Thereupon he tried to pitch but obviously against his will and with no hope of success. As the result he nearly missed the ball. He missed it so nearly that no harm ensued, for he never reached the ball of the enemy and the hole was halved after all; so the moral of the story is not so complete as it might be, but the episode had been a disconcerting one to us both. In looking back nearly 20 years I am still convinced that the shot was a fairly simple one, but much more convinced that if my partner did not agree it was vain to try it. I, and not he, was the villain of the small piece.

Needless to observe, there are some stymies in which failure to achieve the lofting shot is almost necessarily fatal, such as that in Mr. Hilton's match, and others in which we may fail to hole the shot and yet not lose the dreaded two on a division. If the green is slow, for instance, we may not necessarily run out of holing though we miss the hole. If the enemy's ball is some little distance from the hole we may hit it and yet not knock it in. These are all circumstances to be considered, but the decision is never an easy or a pleasant one to make. On the whole I am sure that boldness pays, but we have got to "feel like it," and an infallible recipe for feeling like it is beyond my power to suggest.

# CORRESPONDENCE

## THE ORGAN AT EXETER

SIR.—I am so glad that you have taken the strong line that you have, editorially, on the subject of Exeter Cathedral choir screen and organ. Trouble of this kind is always recurring, and there are little groups that try to put pressure on Deans and Chapters to get these organs taken down.

No case of the kind has actually come before the Central Council for the Care of Churches, and I can really only express a personal view, but my experience of opinion in the country among people who are historically and artistically interested, and officially concerned in matters of this kind, is that they would be definitely against removing the organ from the position at the top of the screen that it has occupied since 1665. The utmost that I think would meet with approval would be a lowering of it by the removal of a sub-structure that was added in the nineteenth century.

From the musical point of view the position is right. Structurally, Exeter Cathedral is such that there is really no other place for the organ. Exeter has no open triforium in which any parts of the organ could be accommodated, and the transepts are exceptionally small. Liturgically, it is right that the organ should be on the screen as the ancient organs always were. Artistically, it is right that the vista should be broken, as it must have been of old by the rood and the attendant images on the screen, which would have formed a more elaborate structure than is generally realised. When will the public understand that these great churches were never intended to be used all at once, and appreciate the immense artistic value of the suggestion of mystery, and the increased appearance of length by breaking the view as it is broken in churches like Exeter, Lincoln and York? It has often fallen to my lot to see Exeter immediately after being at Salisbury. Salisbury is a much longer church, yet on going into Exeter immediately afterwards, it always seems as if it is longer than Salisbury, and this is wholly due to the great screen and the organ.

Of course it is nonsense for anyone to say that the choir was originally visible from the west end. Choirs in these great churches were always enclosed, and the churches were built with that in view. The fact is that so many people do not understand the essential distinction between the arrangement of a collegiate or monastic church and that of a parish church, though, anciently, every parish church in England had an open screen with a loft on the top of it.

So far from the wish to move the organ being general, I have constantly heard people of late saying how thankful they are that Exeter still retains the arrangement. Many say that Exeter would not be Exeter without the organ in this position.

I may add that the problem has recently come up for solution in Norwich Cathedral, where the organ on the screen was destroyed by fire. After most careful consideration it has been decided to re-build it in the original position with a case of the traditional form according to a very beautiful design by the eminent architect, Mr. Stephen Dykes Bower. In two other cases in the country where screens have been removed in the nineteenth century there has recently been a good deal of talk about the possibility of replacement.—F. C. EELES, Secretary, Central Council for the Care of Churches, Earlham, Dunster, Somerset.

## AN OBSTRUCTION

SIR.—In reference to the letter headed *A Great Opportunity* appearing in COUNTRY LIFE of January 21, and your editorial note, and the splendid

picture of the interior of Exeter Cathedral that accompanies it, not many years before this war there was considerable correspondence in *The Times* as to the desirability, or otherwise, of removing the organ from its present position. If I recollect rightly the opponents to removal were, for the most part, those whom I might term "traditional ecclesiologists"; the correspondence being closed by a letter from the Dean who pointed out that, while expressing no opinion as to which view was the right one, the hard fact was that the organ would remain *in situ* as there were no funds available for its removal. This I fear will still be the case when the damage due to bombing comes to be repaired.

Your picture, however, in my humble opinion supports to the full the view put forward by your correspondent, for in it the organ (however beautiful in itself) stands out as an

emergency powers of the Government, at 1939 values or less. A case was recently referred to by an estate agent writing to the Daily Press where a farm was acquired for only £350 over the last known value, which was in 1928.

Your correspondent rightly says "nobody can pretend that the pound has the same purchasing power to-day," but the old value applies to these transactions, with the result that where military works are put in progress acquisition may bring disaster overnight to the landowner, who will have to pay in the open market probably twice as much for similar accommodation.—G. W. GRACE, West Chiltington Common, Sussex.

## REVOLVERS IN COUNTRY AREAS

SIR.—In COUNTRY LIFE of January 14 a correspondent complains that his

Weller would have worn and carried about 1820.

The strap sewn to the brim, most of which is missing, would have passed under the case and locked over the staple opposite to keep the hat in the case. The long strap through loops on the crown would be for securing the case to the coachman's box. The leather "fringe" probably was fitted with a draw-string which, when pulled, would protect the underside of the hat crown from chafe.—F. P. HART (Lieut.-Com., R.N., retired), Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire.

## CROMWELLIAN HAT-BOX

SIR.—I am grateful for the suggestion (COUNTRY LIFE, January 28) that the object illustrated, from the collections in the National Museum of Wales, is "a hat such as the Billingsgate porters wear." However, we had already considered this possibility and had rejected it. Its shape, size and proportions are very different from the porters' hats. Moreover, it is difficult to imagine why a Billingsgate hat should find a home in Powis Castle. The straps are, in my opinion, contemporary with the "hat" and the buckles, as stated, are hand wrought. The dependent fringe round the brim makes it impossible to be worn as a hat: the leather tab and metal staple have also to be explained.

After submitting the problem to your pages, my attention has been drawn to a somewhat similar object in Stirling Castle. The Curator of the Smith Institute, Stirling, informs me that this is believed to be "a hat-box of the Cromwellian period." It now appears likely to me that the object from Powis Castle is the lid of such a box or trunk, possibly part of the furnishings of a coach. The staple-fitting may have been part of the hinge-arrangement, the leather tab for lifting the lid. The straps were for securing the box in position. This appears to be a likely explanation, but corroboration of it, or some other definite identification will be welcomed.—JORWERTH C. PEATE, Keeper of the Department of Folk Culture and Industries, National Museum of Wales, Cardiff.

## HERONS ON THEIR BACKS

SIR.—The Badminton Library (*Coursing and Falconry*), page 293, states: "Some falcons are a little slow in 'making in' to a heron on the ground, and in this way have been badly stabbed. If the heron has time afforded to him to collect himself and get into a fighting attitude he is a dangerous opponent, but the fables of hawks spitting themselves as they are upon beaks upturned in the air are myths which have no foundation in fact."

I think this answers your correspondent's query as to whether herons do defend themselves in this position.—E. W. HENDY, Holt Anstiss, Porlock, Somerset.

## A HERON FISHING

SIR.—With reference to Miss Pitt's article on January 21 (*The Troubles of My "Crane"*), I would like to say that where I live, in Shackleton, West Surrey, we have had a heron visitor to our lake several times a week for the three and a half years that we have been there, though he is frequently mobbed by other birds. But it may not, of course, always be the same heron.

We can see him clearly from the house, and could certainly photograph him from a hide, had we a suitable camera. I don't know whether it is common for herons to come within short distances of houses.

He is always seen either sitting at the top of the highest tree in the neighbourhood or on a grass bank about 1 ft. above the water, which is at least 6 ft. deep here.

His method of catching fish, too,



THE GRACEFUL BRIDGE AT LLANRWST

*See letter: An Inigo Jones Bridge*

incongruous and unnecessary obstruction in an otherwise glorious vista, and I venture to think that the majority of persons who (like myself) have had the privilege of seeing the interior of Exeter Cathedral are of this opinion.

Aesthetically I feel that the organ in its present position is little short of an offence. Further, having regard to the much wider scope in location afforded by the improvements in organ construction introduced by the late Henry Willis (himself a great musician) I cannot think that the removal of the organ from its present position need involve any loss from the musical or congregational point of view.—GEORGE E. NUTTALL, Milford, Stafford.

## AN INIGO JONES BRIDGE

SIR.—From many sources doubt has been expressed whether the bridge depicted in my photograph, that crossing the Conway at Llanrwst, North Wales, is a product of Inigo Jones, James I's famous architect, to whom it has always been attributed.

But going through Plas Mawr—a type of Welsh museum at Conway—recently I saw a bust of Inigo Jones, and on the inscription underneath was "Llanrwst Bridge is an example of his genius." Is there any evidence to support this?—R. RAWLINSON, Rock Bank, Whaley Bridge, near Stockport. ["A bridge at Gwydder" in Denbighshire is mentioned in the *Dictionary of National Biography* among the buildings attributed to Inigo Jones "with very slight authority."—ED.]

## COMPULSORY LAND PURCHASE

SIR.—The Earl of Portsmouth's timely article in your issue of January 21 giving some arguments against adopting the 1939 "ceiling" for rural land values deals admirably with the position so far as it concerns land which will be required for new housing schemes and various other purposes in the post-war period, but it makes no mention of the misfortune arising out of the present acquisition of such land for war purposes under the

revolver was confiscated by the police, and refers to some comments by Major Jarvis in a previous issue.

It is doubtful if the public realises what an extraordinary position exists in this matter. Under the Fire-arms Act, 1937, a chief constable has the right, at his absolute discretion, to refuse to renew a fire-arms certificate. An appeal may be made to Quarter Sessions, but can succeed only if it can be proved that the chief constable did not act in a *bona fide* manner.

In short, private property can be confiscated without compensation at the behest of a single individual who cannot be asked his reasons and from whose decision there is no appeal.

I recently appealed to the Appeal Committee of Quarter Sessions against the refusal to renew a certificate I had held for 20 years. The chairman, on my disclaiming any intention of assaulting the *bona fides* of the chief constable, very courteously explained to me that much as they might sympathise with me they had no power even to ask the chief constable's reasons. I must make it clear that the latter was at pains, through counsel, to emphasise that there was no question whatever as to my suitability to own fire-arms—a conclusion that could scarcely be avoided seeing that a number of chief constables had for 20 years renewed the certificate without question.

The correspondence was subsequently sent, through our Member, to the Home Secretary, who declined to take action and confirmed that no compensation was payable: he pointed out that apparently I had not produced a "good reason" for retarding the arms. One can only wonder why a reason which had been considered satisfactory to a variety of officials for 20 years, including four war years, suddenly ceases to be so—but one may not ask.—W. B. ELWES, Pett, East Sussex.

## A STRANGE OBJECT

SIR.—I suggest that the strange object, illustrated in COUNTRY LIFE of January 28, may be a coachman's hat-case for the sort of hat that Mr.



**AT CADOUIN**  
See letter: *The Relic of Cadouin*

is interesting, and seems to be different from that of Miss Pitt's heron. He stands on his bank staring into the water for long periods, then suddenly diving down to the water, catching his fish, and returning to the bank. He never actually alights on the water. He occasionally does the same thing, too, when in flight across the lake.—*C. Hill, Christ Church, Oxford.*

[We have referred this letter to Miss Pitt, who says: Most birds are adaptable and vary much in habits according to the difficulties with which they are confronted, but I have never seen or heard of a heron attempting to catch fish upon the wing. However, possibly the writer means that the bird ran down the bank when it saw a fish, which would be quite in keeping with ordinary heron procedure.—ED.]

#### THE FORTY POUND GATE

SIR—I was most interested to read Mr. J. F. Lumbers's letter (January 14) about the Forty Pound Gate at Baggrave Hall. My husband told me that his grandfather paid £40, as Major Guy Paget states, for this gate, which is the only story relating to it that I have heard.—*MINNA BURNABY, Pinfold, Thorpe Satchville, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire.*

#### A STRANGELY-MARKED SHEEP

SIR.—The accompanying photograph is of a ram and is unique because of the victory "V" sign on its two sides.

The ram was born in Transjordan and its owner, a Beduin, regarded this strange freak of Nature as only a nuisance. He sold the ram to a Palestine farmer. The animal has a perfect V on the right side and a closed V like a shield on the opposite



**THE RAM'S ADORNMENT**  
See letter: *A Strangely-marked Sheep*

side. The colour of the ram is ash grey with the letter V in white wool.—*H. W. STEPHENSON, Clapham Common, S.*

#### STRANGE TASTES OF ANIMALS

Some years ago I had a wire-haired terrier which was very fond of

oranges. The first time my brother saw him eating one he remarked: "I call that the triumph of good honest greed over natural disinclination."—*A. G., Harborne, Birmingham.*

#### THE RELIC OF CADOUIN

SIR.—We are so much interested in the photograph and story of the reliquary representing the Holy Shroud recently reproduced in the Collectors' Questions columns in COUNTRY LIFE. There is another story of the Holy Shroud which may not be familiar to many readers.

In that lovely part of France, the

Périgord, lies in a fertile valley the village of Cadouin which owns a fine 12th-century cathedral. Knowing that Cadouin possessed a relic—more than a relic—the Holy Shroud, we asked to see it. The face of the kindly curé clouded and he made an excuse hardly audible; we changed the subject and

Oriental scholar in Cairo who reported the linen to be of 6th-century date only and the marks on it of ancient Arabic. The authorities at Toulouse of course had to be informed and the discredited relic put away out of sight. It nearly broke the curé's heart. For months he shut himself up and refused to see any visitors at all; we were almost the first, and unwittingly added a pang to his years of sorrow. The pilgrims come no more and few people come to Cadouin.—*DOROTHY HAMILTON DEAN, Buckfastleigh, South Devon.*

#### A STAFFORD-SHIRE VALLEY

SIR.—The enclosed photograph shows the beautiful valley of the Manifold in Staffordshire situated in a designated National Park area. Quite recently Lady MacDougall presented to the National Trust a portion of the entrance to the famous valley showing a remarkable rock formation which is being preserved by the National Trust as a geological monument in the interests of science and



**THE BEAUTIFUL VALLEY OF THE MANIFOLD**  
See letter: *A Staffordshire Valley*

spoke of the beauties of the cloister and our great love of France. Next day, an archaeologist in the little hotel at Les Eyzies told us the tragedy of Cadouin.

The first part of the story was familiar enough to us. In the first crusade, a French knight found the Holy Shroud; he, with 12 other knights and a monk, started for France with their precious find, but on the way met with robbers, enemies, and fever. Eventually only one knight was left and he confided the Shroud to the monk whom he told to take it to Toulouse for safe keeping in the cathedral. The knight was killed, and alone the monk journeyed on till he came to Toulouse. But his story was discredited, so the little monk went sadly to Cadouin, his native village, and built round the treasure a wooden church, which, some years after, was burnt. So in the end the Shroud went to Toulouse, was stolen and came back

at last to Cadouin, where a cathedral was built worthy of so great a treasure. For nine centuries pilgrims came from far and wide to see the Shroud, which was guarded with devotion by the successive curés. Alas! Two years before our visit, a distinguished visitor came and was allowed to photograph the Shroud. The result was sent to an

#### HERO OF WATERLOO

SIR.—On the Esplanade of Edinburgh Castle is a huge granite sarcophagus bearing just two words, "Ensign Ewart." Behind that simple inscription lies a story of bravery and coincidence. At the Battle of Waterloo, Sergeant Ewart, who was Ensign



**THE MEMORIAL TO THE HERO OF THE TAKING OF THE STANDARD**

See letter: *Hero of Waterloo*

of the Royal Scots Greys, distinguished himself by capturing single-handed the eagle standard of the French 45th Regiment ("The Invincibles"), his valour being immortalised by Ansell's famous masterpiece *The Taking of the Standard*. After his discharge Ewart settled down in Manchester, finally dying in Salford in the mid-nineteenth century at a very advanced age. Somehow all records of his burial-place were lost, although extensive searches were made.

Just before the outbreak of the present war, however, the Salford authorities decided to demolish some rather dilapidated property within their borough, and during the process lifted some old flagstones, which revealed the flat tombstones of a bygone burial ground. Among the graves discovered was that of Ensign Ewart, so the Scots Greys Regimental Association was communicated with and his remains were removed to a more fitting resting place in Edinburgh.—*CYRIL R. ROWSON, 118, Ferguson Road, Liverpool, 11.*

#### THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL AT BURNSALL

SIR.—The beautiful old Grammar School at Burnsall, Wharfedale, Yorkshire, was built in 1602 by Sir William Craven. Although this was the beginning of the Stuart era, Sir William's ideas were conservative and the Elizabethan tradition dominates the building. Sir William, who was born in the neighbouring village of Appletreewick, was a real-life Dick Whittington, for he went to London with hardly a penny in his pocket and became Lord Mayor.

The school has its sinister side. It is said that the notorious murderer Eugene Aram, the subject of Hood's ballad *Dream of Eugene Aram* and of Bulwer Lytton's *Eugene Aram*, was



**WHERE EUGENE ARAM WAS USHER**

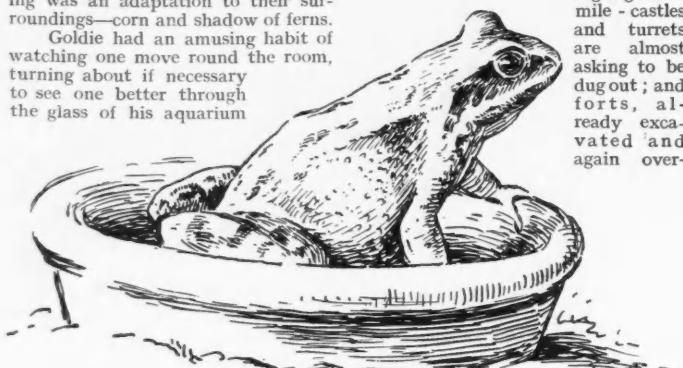
See letter: *The Grammar School at Burnsall*

an usher here.—EDWARD RICHARDSON, W. Bridgford, Nottingham.

### GOLDIE AND FRECKLES

SIR.—I am the owner of two frogs, Goldie and Freckles, which were both caught at harvest-time. Goldie came from a corn field and was strikingly yellow in colour. Freckles was very dark and spotted. He lived in the garden and found his way into the house on two occasions. Their colouring was an adaptation to their surroundings—corn and shadow of ferns.

Goldie had an amusing habit of watching one move round the room, turning about if necessary to see one better through the glass of his aquarium.



**GOLDIE IN HIS WATER-POT ON A MILD DAY**

See letter: *Goldie and Freckles*

home—and always he sat perched up on his leaves and moss as if playing sentinel. Freckles liked to sit with his back covered and only his rather sharp nose showing.

They were kept in a room without heat, and as soon as the first hard frost arrived their home was filled with Irish moss and leaves for protection.

Freckles vanished at once and has been in a state of coma, deep in the middle of the pile, ever since. Not so Goldie—not even the coldest day has made him dig himself in. When frost ferns covered the windows he was still perched on his green heap—still interested in people moving about the room; only he wouldn't eat. On a mild day he comes down and sits in his water-pot—always a favourite habit of his—and looks around with wide-awake eyes.

Once on a very bitter day I carefully covered him up, but he shot out in an indignant leap and still sits—probably the only frog out of bed in the winter—on his heap of Irish moss.

—M. FORSTER KNIGHT, Warwickshire.

### HADRIAN'S WALL

SIR.—While every effort is being made by the United Nations in Italy to



**THE FACING STONES OF HADRIAN'S WALL IN THEIR PRESENT STATE**

See letter: *Hadrian's Wall*

preserve from further damage famous monuments of the past, and in the House of Commons a member complains of aerial bombs on the ruins of Pompeii, we, in our typically British way, are allowing our finest show-piece of Roman Britain literally to fall to pieces, owing solely to our own neglect. I refer, of course, to Hadrian's Wall, from the Solway to the Tyne. Miles of the facing stones, as seen on the enclosed photograph, need cementing together: mile-castles and turrets are almost asking to be dug out; and forts, already excavated and again over-

of interest. This is the inscription on his tomb:

Born in America, in Europe bred,  
In Africa travell'd, and in Asia wed,  
Where long he liv'd and thriv'd; at London dead.

Much good, some ill, he did; so hope all's even,  
And that his soul thro' mercy's gone to heaven.  
You that survive, and read, take care  
For this most certain exit to prepare;  
For only the actions of the just  
Smell sweet and blossom in the dust.

Yale once lived in Erddig Park, in an old house called Plas Grono. He died at his London house July 8, 1721. The body was taken down to Wrexham and buried in the churchyard there on the 22nd of the same month.

—AMY E. PHILLIPS, Vrondeg Hall, Wrexham, North Wales.



**THREE PARISH CLERKS**

See letter: *Wrexham Memorials*

### RAILWAY MEMORIAL

SIR.—Have you ever heard of a tunnel in a churchyard? Well, here is one built among the graves at Otley, Yorkshire.

It is a scale model built as a memorial to the men killed in the making of the Bramhope Railway Tunnel, near by, between 1845 and 1849. With its mediæval drum-towers it is perhaps unique.—J.R., Darlington.

(i.e. rush-seated) chairs, an old elbow-chair frame, and an old inlaid table with green "bays" cover. There is no mention of any chest of drawers or other receptacle for clothes.

In the Footmen's Room slept eight footmen. Each had his own four-post bedstead of beech, with stained "feet" posts and blue and white check curtains and hangings; on it were a check "mattress," a bolster, a pillow and a linen quilt with "stiff back." There were 12 pairs of blankets—one, two, or three blankets for each bed. There were, besides, seven deal clothes boxes, so that of the eight footmen, the two youngest, perhaps, had to share a "cloaths" box between them. Three "matted" chairs, besides two camp elbow chairs with leather seats, were provided. There do not appear to have been any window curtains.

The inventory was taken after the death in the hunting field of the owner, the Marquess of Tavistock, on March 22, 1767, when, overwhelmed with grief at the tragic loss of his only son, John, 4th Duke of Bedford dismantled the house, a fine Jacobean mansion and the reputed work of Inigo Jones.

At the late Lord Tavistock's House at Houghton Park		
<i>Garrets</i>		
1	A Bed Room Apartment	Appartement de la chambre de l'ameublement
2	A Bed Room Apartment with Blue and White Check	Chambre à coucher meublée en ble et blanc
3	A Bed Room Apartment	Chambre à coucher
4	A Bed Room Apartment with Blue and White Check	Chambre à coucher bleue et blanche
5	A Bed Room Apartment	Chambre à coucher
6	A Chest drawn up Window Curtains	Un coffre tiré à la fenêtre
7	A Music Chair	Un fauteuil à musique
8	An Old Elbow Chair Frame	Un fauteuil à bras ancien
9	An Old Oak Table	Table en chêne ancienne
<i>N. 2. Footmen's Room</i>		
10	A Bed Room Apartment with Drawers for Bed Linen and White Cloth Servants	Chambre à coucher avec tiroirs pour linge de lit et serviettes blanches
11	A Bed Room Apartment	Chambre à coucher
12	A Bed Room Apartment	Chambre à coucher
13	A Bed Room Apartment	Chambre à coucher
14	A Bed Room Apartment	Chambre à coucher
15	A Bed Room Apartment	Chambre à coucher
16	A Bed Room Apartment	Chambre à coucher
17	A Bed Room Apartment	Chambre à coucher
18	A Large Elbow Chair	Un grand fauteuil à bras
<i>N. 3. Footmen's Room</i>		
19	A Bed Room Apartment and Bed Quarters	Chambre à coucher et chambre à lits
20	A Bed Room Apartment	Chambre à coucher
21	A Bed Room Apartment	Chambre à coucher
22	A Bed Room Apartment	Chambre à coucher
23	A Bed Room Apartment	Chambre à coucher
24	A Bed Room Apartment	Chambre à coucher
25	A Bed Room Apartment	Chambre à coucher
26	A Bed Room Apartment	Chambre à coucher
27	A Bed Room Apartment	Chambre à coucher
Carried Out		£ 16. 15. 6

**A PAGE FROM A 1767 INVENTORY**

See letter: *Footmen*

It is believed by some to have been the House Beautiful in Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*. It is now an almost complete ruin, though a part of the walls still stands.

I am indebted to the Duke of Bedford for permission to reproduce the front page of the inventory.—H. CLIFFORD SMITH, Highclere near Newbury, Berkshire.



**A TUNNEL IN A CHURCHYARD**

See letter: *Railway Memorial*

grown, require ridding of destructive weeds and grasses.

Although realising, only too well, that while the war lasts such work is entirely out of the question, I suggest that the limited restoration of Hadrian's Wall be borne in mind as a post-war project, for after the great guns cease firing a fair amount of temporary employment will have to be created until we get into our peace-time business stride again.

First of all, any further destruction of the Wall by quarrying, such as has occurred at Greenhead and Cawfield, should be stopped once and for all time by the Ministry of Works, who are responsible for the safeguarding of the Great Wall. To defend the destruction of this wonderful unique monument of Ancient Rome by commercial enterprise with the remark, "There are miles of Wall further on," brings a retort from all lovers of the countryside that there are many other places where quarrying can be carried on, even more profitably, than along Rome's old "North-West Frontier."—CYRIL R. ROWSON, Larkhill, Liverpool, 11.

### WREXHAM MEMORIALS

SIR.—This rather charming old monument to Daniel and Philip and William Jones, all parish clerks, is in the west wall near the north door of Wrexham parish church. The photograph which I send you is from Mrs. Yorke of Erddig Park.

Now that there are so many Americans in England, the epitaph of Elihu Yale, who founded Yale University, may be

SIR.—Every one of your readers will have been charmed with the article in COUNTRY LIFE by the Rev. Jocelyn J. Antrobus, entitled *Lady Hippisley: her Day Book*, 1814. Not the least instructive and fascinating of the details there given are the regulations laid down by the mistress of the house for the domestic staff, especially the footmen, a description of whose liveries is set out in detail. Clothes worn for waiting in were not to be kept in the stables.

Though it was still the custom at this date to keep many footmen, half a century earlier even more were employed. Innumerable men-servants were, in fact, an essential part of every 18th-century household of standing. Preserved in the muniment room at Woburn Abbey is an inventory of the contents of Houghton House, near Bedford, taken in 1767. It begins with the furniture of the "Garrets" room No. 1, Over my Lady's Apartment, and room No. 2, Footmen's Room. Room No. 1 contained four-post bedstead of beechwood with blue check "furniture" (i.e. hangings) and bedding (described in detail), a check draw-up window curtain, 4 "matted"



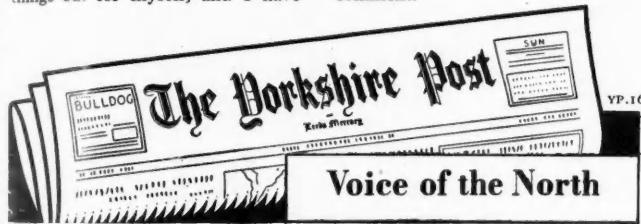
**"Wh do I read the  
Yorksire Post?"**

"I'm not a Yorkshire man but I feel I am missing something when I don't see my Yorkshire Post."

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come to know that I can rely on its considered point of view.

"Many men I know also think it's a good idea to read a paper other than a London one. I chose The Yorkshire Post because of its sane balanced outlook on politics, finance and industry; because its leading articles are excellent, and because it gives me the news without sensationalism but with reasoned comment."



## GOOD NEWS

### FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS

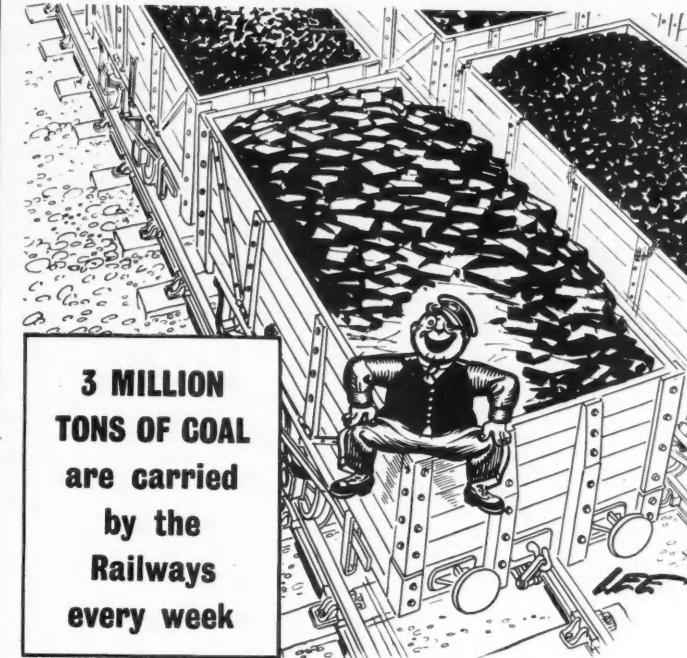


Ensign camera film is still available. That's good news. But don't blame your photographic dealer if he cannot always supply you. Quantities available are very limited and he is working under difficulties. Ensign "Ultrachrome" film is rightly sought after by discerning photographers. For speed, colour sensitivity and freedom from grain it is unexcelled by any film of its class.

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**Until then . . .** The young men who to-day are winning the battles, will learn to step into their fathers' shoes in the post-war years. You will see them on market days . . . bidding shrewdly like old hands. Until then, the older men must plough and sow, and make ready for the next harvest. Mechanised farming is one of Britain's most important instruments of victory . . . and Ford and Fordson tractors are playing a great and ever-growing part in helping to grow more food and save shipping for the vital needs of war.



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**READING**

## FARMING NOTES

# POST-WAR NEEDS IN FARMING

**W**E can hope that the day is fast approaching when Denmark, France and the other Nazi-occupied countries will be liberated.

One of the most pressing problems as our Forces advance will be the supply of food for them and for the liberated peoples. We can be sure that the Germans who have been living on these countries will not leave much behind. Figures have been put out over the enemy radio which may or may not be true. It is said that a pig census taken in Denmark last November showed that the pig stocks total 2,400,000, an increase of 53,000 since the previous month. These may just be comforting figures to keep the Danes quiet. The Nazis said, too, that while butter supplies had fallen, egg production was increasing. The numbers of cattle registered for slaughter showed a slight fall, but the number of calves was unchanged. From Cologne has come the warning that farmers must maintain their stocks of sows. Pigs had to be reduced two years ago in view of the feeding-stuffs position, but a repetition of the fiasco of 1915-17 must be avoided, and in the coming year all farms will be required to deliver pigs for slaughter. This is an interesting contrast to our policy. We have let pigs go in this war. The back-yarder has been encouraged to keep a pig, but the farmer who was engaged in commercial pig-breeding and feeding has been forced out of business by the lack of feeding-stuffs. In Germany the farmer has always been much more self-supporting as regards feeding-stuffs.

\* \* \*

**T**Hese facts are worth quoting because they illustrate what Mr. Hudson and Colonel Llewellyn have been saying about the world shortage of food. Even after Germany is defeated we, in this country, shall face a period, to be measured not in months but in years, during which we shall have to continue the utmost efforts to feed ourselves in order not to make undue calls on the surplus food of the world. This is what Mr. Hudson said in the recent House of Commons debate. Sir John Anderson said much the same. As this is the prospect, our Government might well take their courage in both hands and give farmers a clear assurance of guaranteed markets and prices for at least four years to come. Mr. Hudson spoke of an approach to the National Farmers' Union to consider whether an assurance of the continuance of the system of guaranteed markets and prices cannot be related more closely to the four-year cropping plan, covering the harvest of 1947, which the War Agricultural Committees are trying to apply to individual farms.

\* \* \*

**S**IR JOHN RUSSELL, who has lately been in Spain, has made a close study of the probable requirements of post-war Europe. In a contribution to the *Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society of England* (commented on in COUNTRY LIFE of January 28) he declares that, as each region is occupied by the Allies, food must be carried in as rapidly as possible. It must be the right food properly balanced to meet the needs. Emergency diets have been drawn up which, with the foods probably available locally, would relieve the worst of the hunger. While emergency supplies can be rushed in to meet the first need, the supply cannot be continued for long. It is imperative that the local agriculture should be re-started as quickly as possible so as first to supplement and then to replace the activities of the relief organisations. Another reason hardly less urgent is that re-starting the agriculture will contribute greatly to the rehabilitation of morale in Europe. As General Booth discovered long ago, nothing restores a man's self-respect so quickly as to give him a job that he feels worth doing.

\* \* \*

**F**OR some months now people have been working in this country and America to prepare help in re-starting agriculture in the Continental countries where it has been submerged in the surge of war. Requirements have been estimated of seeds, livestock, feeding-stuffs, fertilisers, machinery and labour. Cereal-growing and potato-growing will have to be pushed hard, and all evidence shows that the Germans are constraining all farmers under their control to grow these two crops whatever their peace-time systems of farming may have been. Countries like Holland and Denmark that had lucrative branches of intensive production have had to give these up in order to grow more cereals and potatoes, just as the flower-growers in this country have had to switch their production to essential lines.

CINCINNATI.

## THE ESTATE MARKET

## COAST BUILDING CONTROL

FOUR or five years before the present war began there had been but few large-scale attempts to sell seaside sites, and only a very small amount of building. On the South-Eastern Coast, from Dover to Dungeness, a great many small houses and bungalows had been put up in the early '30s.

## "VILLAS" AND BUNGALOWS

MOST of the accommodation was of a cheap kind, and unregulated by any sort of estate control. As most of the occupiers of the different types of dwelling probably took very little interest in them, except for a month or two in the summer, they were not particular about amenities. Cheap building, on land that was sold at about its market value as poor grass land or mere shingle, meant ugliness, and, in many instances, a class of occupier whose patronage attracted to a locality the "amusement caterers" with merry-go-rounds, oker-nut-shies, penny gambling tables, and their concomitants, not for a week only but throughout the summer. Washing was hung out of the windows, and ramshackle garages housed those second-hand cars that were thought worthy of any housing at all. Of the effect of the uprising of such "resorts" on any nice old-fashioned and once secluded hamlet near by, H. G. Wells and others have written, and anyone who has motored through them is aware. Unfortunately the peculiarities of so many of the people who spend their holidays in such cheaply built places are not confined to the houses or bungalows but extend to the beaches, where, with a disregard for their own safety, so many seem to like to break bottles and deposit empty tins. The "estate roads" are usually of a piece with the rest of the settlement, that is make-shift and aggressively ugly. Perhaps the least depressing thought about such spots is that the buildings are evidently not destined to stand many winters, and that there may then be the chance to remodel them on moderately good lines.

## ESTATE CONTROL

THE formulation of an estate policy in developing a place involves expense and a continuity of active control, both of which are outside the calculations of speculative developers, who desire only to make a quick profit and to leave the spot to its fate. Yet, in contrast to some of these cheap and nasty examples, are newly-created resorts where, from the moment that they acquired the land, the promoters began to spend money on properly laying out roads, and not only the construction of the houses but their subsequent use was carefully provided for, to ensure the maintenance of a good standard. It is gratifying to know that the financial results of some, at any rate, of these thoughtfully designed centres have proved satisfactory and that a good class of permanent occupier has appreciated them, and holds a stake in the future of the place, having acquired the freehold or long lease, subject to the stipulations concerning amenity. Reverting for a moment to the disfiguring development of coastal sites it may be mentioned that, although most of the houses that were built on them and that changed hands at the old "plot auctions" are small and meagrely built, they are, on the whole, better than those that have been put up by local speculators managed by any odd bit of waste land lying. The condition of affairs, I am afraid, respects, have stayed the coastal "jerry-builder"

ARBITER.

and therefore of the speculative seeker of a quick profit on sites, and measures are now being taken which should safeguard the amenities of places that are as yet unspoilt. A special survey is now in progress as the basis of a comprehensive scheme of control of any further development along the coastline, and so in years to come much of what has been and is still looked upon as beautiful may be preserved for public enjoyment.

## F FARMS WITH POSSESSION

JANUARY is generally a quiet month for auctions of real estate, and the past month was no exception. Small urban investments, of purely local interest in their respective districts, have met with a ready sale to buyers who seem to be beginning to look less at the fact that they cannot raise the rents than at the comparative security afforded by small rentals, inasmuch as the tenants are unable to find any other accommodation.

Few farms with the right of immediate possession came under the hammer, and these changed hands at fair but not phenomenal prices, though, as usual, one or two correspondents express surprise at the figures. For 88 acres at Chislet, on the Thanet road from Canterbury, a total of £5,250 was obtained; and for just over 170 acres at Egerton, near Chester, the hammer fell at £11,400. Lincolnshire auctions again revealed the keenness of bidders for first-rate potato and bulb-growing farms.

## PROBLEMS OF RE-PLANNING

UP to the moment of writing only two or three property-owners have instituted proceedings before the appropriate tribunals in order to get on with the repair or re-building of damaged premises in London. The great majority prefer to wait until the various reports on re-planning and reconstruction have been presented and considered, and they may then have to postpone any work for a further period pending legislation. To most property-owners the delay, disastrous as it is through the loss of any income from their property, may not be as hard to bear as it might have been if the cause was solely that they had to wait for the reports. Most of them look with considerable fear at the prohibitive cost of labour and materials, and some foresee troublesome questions concerning the delimiting of sites and so forth. One class of problem will arise in relation to widened streets. The owner of what was formerly a quite adequate site area, with good frontage, may be faced with the deprivation of much of his ground. His frontage remains, but it will be so shallow as to preclude the possibility of profitable re-building. What can he do? It may well be that the land contiguous to the rear of his site is fully covered with valuable buildings, or is otherwise unobtainable. Total expropriation might be a remedy of a sort, though many owners of frontages would rather retain them than receive any pecuniary compensation for parting with them. Supposing he is bought out, and the adjoining owner at the rear of the site does not wish to use what is left of it, what would happen? That point was not dealt with in certain of the earlier experiments in making new London thoroughfares—Victoria Street and Queen Victoria Street—and very awkward and useless bits of land were left, and in due course they were very poorly covered. That at any rate must be avoided in future. Much under this head alone must be settled before any re-building can be taken in hand.



To plow is to pray, to plant is to prophesy, and the harvest answers and fulfills.

R. G. INGERSOLL, 1833-1899.

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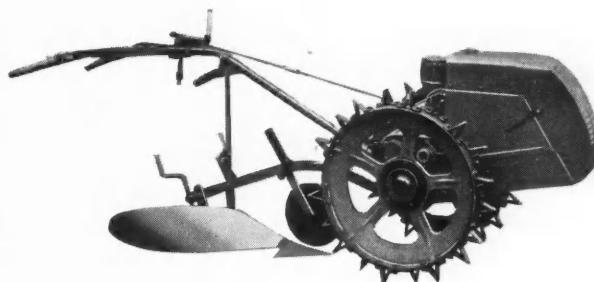


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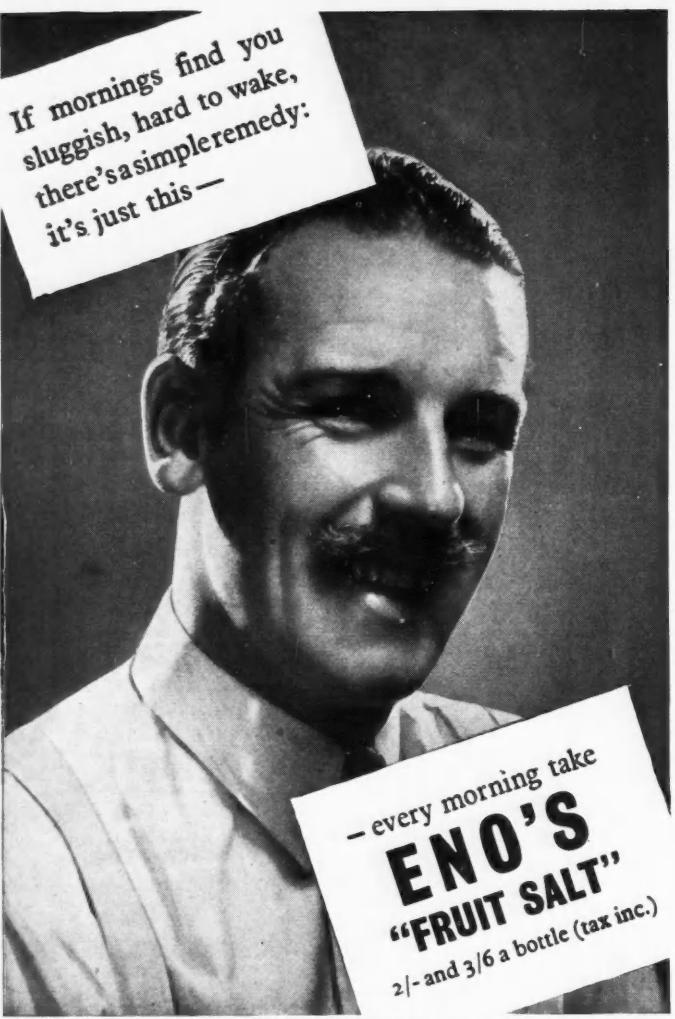
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## NEW BOOKS

# A RECRUIT TO DIPLOMACY

Reviews by HOWARD SPRING

WHEN the Earl of Onslow, who was then Viscount Cranley, heard in 1901 that he had passed the examination which gave him entrance to the Diplomatic Service, he was in Scotland. In his autobiography *Sixty-three Years* (Hutchinson, 18s.) he writes: "My first thought was that it would be a great bore to have to go to London and forego so much good shooting."

Lord Onslow is never less than frank. He confesses that he did not like his private school, that Eton bored him, so that "when I left I was not much benefited by the education, due to my own fault," and that "I was not keen to go up to Oxford." However, his father insisted, "and I can never be sufficiently grateful to him." He played whist every night, "and I can safely say that I never had such a good time before, or since, as I had at the University. I cannot say that I devoted myself in any way to improving my mind; in fact, I gave my whole energies to amusing myself, and I did it very thoroughly. Hunting, the drag, shooting, racing filled most of the twenty-four hours." To prepare himself for the Diplomatic examination he went to a crammer's.

### GOOD OLD DAYS

In short, those who feel that in the good old days the recruits to the Diplomatic Service might with advantage have been chosen by other methods than those we did, in fact, employ, could discover in this book something to support their case.

Then there was the question of pay. A man who had given his mind more seriously than Lord Onslow confesses to having done to the business of fitting himself for the job might well at the last moment decide that his poverty made it impossible for him to go on. Without some private income, how could he live on the meagre pay?

Lord Onslow denies that there was any "requirement" of a private income. "Much nonsense," he writes, "has been talked about the recruitment of the Diplomatic Service and a great deal of scorn poured on the 'requirement' of a private income. As a matter of fact, there was no such requirement. I was secretary to the Selection Board for two years and all the correspondence was conducted by me. Candidates were told that they should have £400 a year, for the very good reason that an Attaché was unpaid for two years and a Third Secretary got only £150 a year; so unless a man had some money of his own he could not eat. These facts were stated to candidates; if then they chose to compete, and found after getting into the Service that

they went hungry to bed, they had only themselves to thank."

One thing to be said about this is that if it isn't a "requirement" I don't know the meaning of words, and another is that poor candidates had not themselves, but the roughly

unsatisfactory system, to thank. Even now, and outside the Diplomatic Service we are not free from the view that a man with money is to be preferred to one without it. I came first-hand during this war on a case of a candidate for a R.N.V.R. commission being asked how much he had in the bank! I suppose that would help him a lot to take a M.L. to St. Nazaire or to land men on the beach at Dieppe.

The special appeal of this book then is in its picture of the recruitment and employment of young diplomats towards the turn of the century, and in its account of the court and society in Russia during the Russo-Japanese war and immediately afterwards. Lord Onslow, who was in St. Petersburg at the time, does a service to history in giving what I do not remember ever to have seen before: an English version of the petition which the workers carried on that fatal day when, led by Father Gapon, they tried to interview the Czar and were shot down in the streets. In parts it is very moving: "Sire, there are many thousands of us here who are human beings only in semblance, only in outward appearance, whereas in reality we do not enjoy a single human right, not even the right to speak, to think, to meet and converse about our wants, or to adopt measures for the amelioration of our condition. . . . Give attentive heed without anger to our demands; they are designed not for evil but for good, as well for ourselves as for thee also, Sire. . . . Only two paths are open to us, either to freedom and happiness or to the grave."

I do not know whether a copy of this paper ever got into the Czar's hands, or whether, if it did, he remembered it twelve years later while he awaited the decision of those who then, awaited his.

### TEST OF BATTLE

Mr. A. D. Divine's book *Road to Tunis* (Collins, 10s. 6d.) is dedicated to "C Company, 701st Tank Destroyer Battalion, U.S. Army." Mr. Divine is a war correspondent who accompanied the invasion forces into North Africa. For a long time he was attached to the American company to whom his book is dedicated. He saw much active service with them; he saw them as a band of green enthusiastic recruits; he saw them all but destroyed, and out of the wreckage he saw arise the formidable force that battle-tested men become.

The episode which welded these

men into a force was, in its way, one of the most terrible to happen in this phase of the war. When they were weary and hard put to it after much fighting, they were suddenly attacked from the air. "She wheeled and came in again to the attack; another plane passing on the track that she had taken, to wheel in its turn—eleven of them altogether, attacking at a height of fifty feet: soaring, streaming, wheeling like vast and terrible birds out of some fantastic other world; flashing by, their guns streaming, their wings screaming, their twin motors snarling."

#### DISASTROUS MISTAKE

When they had passed, besides the dead and wounded there were nine vehicles burning, seven self-propelled guns out of action, almost every other vehicle damaged. "As a fighting unit C Company of the 701st Tank Destroyers had ceased to exist." And the aeroplanes which had done this were American! "It had ceased to exist not at the hands of the enemy, but at the latter hands of a disastrous mistake."

There have been other books about this Tunisian campaign, but Mr. Divine's is as good as any I have come across. He has seeing eyes and a pen which permits him to give the reader clearly what he sees. He describes well, whether the general scope and intention of a military movement, or some small isolated episode, humorous or pathetic or tragic, or the changing face of the enormous area through which warfare raged.

A fine example of the effect and economy of his method is his telling of how he found by the steep banks of a river a single grave. It was in an orchard of olives and fig-trees, and autumn crocuses were thrusting up between the stones. On the rough cross of wood was pencilled "Ed. Thompson, Lancs. Fusiliers." He goes on: "Passing by that way again I found flowers fresh-cut and lying beneath the cross—garden flowers. There was farm-house close by and in its garden were flowers that matched that offering. The house was full of refugees, and I asked if I might thank them for their kindness. One of them spoke English. He said, 'I learnt to speak it in Lancashire nearly thirty years ago, when I was a refugee. I am a Belgian: my name is Classens—now I am a refugee again. There is little that we can do, but we can look after their graves'"

What an enormous amount is packed into this vignette! And the book abounds in them. It is the work of a man who not only sees war's mechanic action but understands its human implications.

#### FENLAND NOVEL

Towards the end of Miss Doreen Wallace's novel *Land from the Waters* (Collins, 9s. 6d.) there is an episode that contains the heart of the matter. Bridget Joslin, a farmer's wife, has gone on Oliver Cromwell to present a petition against the draining of the Fens. She points out how the fowlers and fishermen and basket-makers live there, as from immemorial time, gaining a livelihood and under obligation to none.

Cromwell speaks of the farms that will be where the Fens have been, of new crafts that will arise, of the development the dispossessed will have with the farmers. All this will add to the nation's wealth. Bridget asks, "What is wealth, beside?" and for Cromwell that

was indeed a stumper, out of which he escaped with: "We ha' lifted off you all illegal taxation, and gi'en you spiritual freedom."

"That you han't," says Bridget boldly. "I'd liever have illegal taxes, and the maypole back again upon the village green. There's no spiritual freedom unless a man's jocundity of spirit be as free to exercise itself as his holiness."

Bridget might well long for jocundity of spirit, for her husband, John Joslin, is one of the dullest and drabbest "heroes" I have come on in fiction for a long time. Beginning as an advocate of the free men of the Fens, he gradually changes his views as Cromwell's change, for John was a follower of Cromwell in all things. Beginning as a not unattractive sober-sides, he develops into a forbidding bore, who leaves all the farm work to his wife while he is off on public work, off to the wars, off anywhere where "the public good" calls him. And little thanks Bridget gets for all she does for him.

#### WHAT IS PUBLIC GOOD?

And what is the public good? What is public progress? What private liberty? And how may these things be reconciled? These are the questions—present then, present now—which the author explores in as good a book as she has written for a long time. The fen-draining and the Civil War go side by side, and between them provide abundance of stir and interest. A parson with a genius for accommodation to the times, but likeable none the less, the Dutchmen who have been brought in to do the draining, the fen-dwellers, the King and Cromwell all take a hand in a book which combines lively readability with a serious intention.

#### SPEAKING OF JANE AUSTEN

**L**EGITIMATE escape"—so Miss Kaye-Smith well describes the world of Miss Austen's novels. It is a world of real life, but of the happier half of real life, and therefore both convincing and cheering. *Talking of Jane Austen*, by Sheila Kaye-Smith and G. B. Stern (Cassell, 12s. 6d.), a tribute and guide to that beloved world, is well named, since it is spontaneous, discursive and gossipy like a good conversation. Those not familiar with Jane Austen's books, however, will find it rather like one of those parties at which the talk is all about people you don't know. It speaks of Mary Crawford and Catherine Morland, Frank Churchill and Mr. Darcy, as friends whose characters and histories are already well known to listeners.

The many who know their Miss Austen backwards will, however, be entranced by such fascinating speculations as whether Fanny Price would not really have been much happier married to Henry Crawford, and what Colonel Forster thought of Lydia Bennet. They may also be irritated by the desire to be different which has led the authors to rate *Pride and Prejudice* so low, the rough handling given to such favourites as Eleanor Tilney, and the familiarity of perpetually referring to the most elegant of authors as "Jane." But provocation is perhaps part of the authors' plan; they have deliberately trailed their coats a little; and altogether they have provided a book bound to stimulate and amuse any devotee of Miss Austen's, culminating in a quiz so difficult that the most learned fan is unlikely to get full marks.

A. C. H.

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BISCUITS

BY APPOINTMENT TO THE LATE KING GEORGE V.



Left: Hopsack jersey in wool and angora with a white shark-skin dickey and a suede and snake-skin belt. Can be emerald, turquoise, gold, olive, mushroom, violet or black. Right: wool and angora jersey with back fullness set between a yoke and a waistband, pig-skin belt and white Peter Pan collar. Both Wolsey models from Marshall and Snelgrove

## Jersey Frocks AND BUTTON-HOLES



**B**UTTON-HOLES and veils, white shirts, white felts and touches of white on revers, collars, belts and cuffs—these are the welcome harbingers of spring. After a winter in dark clothes the spring accessories provide an exhilarating tonic for jaded wardrobes. This spring, even with the war in its fifth year, there are some excellent ideas for brightening one's clothes—some ravishing bonnets and hats, flower button-holes modelled and coloured exquisitely by hand so that they look as though they had been picked from an alpine meadow.

All the milliners are talking about white hats—white mushroom felts, white felt fedoras, tiny white feather hats, white toques, navy sailors swathed with white veiling, white cellophane straws veiled in navy, white braid snoods with a couple of marguerites behind each ear, navy surah silk squares dotted with white. The white hats pick up the white of spic and span piqué or shark-skin revers and the piping that edges so many of the straight three-quarter sleeves of navy or black woollen frocks. Or the white may take the form of a shark-skin dickey on a jersey frock, or a frilled tucker in a round neckline, or a starched crochet jabot frothing out of a high buttoned jacket. Always, the white must be isolated on an otherwise dark costume and repeated on the head or hands, or both.

Many of the spring piqué or linen shirts have bow ties that just fill in the small V of a high, buttoned jacket. Generally, there is a neat stiffened Peter Pan collar. Blouses in artificial romaine, chalk white or ivory, have a softer neckline, a yoke and bow cut in one that needs to be tied with as much care as the old-fashioned cravat, or a stand-up Edwardian collar that knots or folds over and is smart with two diamond clips pinned in front. Some of these white blouses are smocked; others have box-pleated fronts, or cross over and fasten under one arm. Then they look quite "dressy," and are intended to be worn for dinner in a restaurant with a tiny white hat or snood.

When the first snowdrops appeared as tight round bunches in Paris in the first weeks of the year, the smart Parisiennes always pinned them on to the lapel of dark tailor-mades and fur coats. It was a pretty fashion and one rejoices to see it in London where smart outfits with button-holes that draw the eye have been a cheerful sight recently. A thick tailor-made looked fresh and springlike worn with a cyclamen shirt matched by a button-hole of wild cyclamen. Everything else, hat, gloves, bag, and shoes, was black. A tall fair girl had pinned a huge carnation under her chin just below the turn-down collar of her long summer ermine

(Left) Button-holes—wild cyclamen, pin-tipped daisies, a miniature daffodil with anemones and heart's-ease, and a spray of apple blossom. Marshall and Snelgrove



This very becoming black felt hat has a cupid blue petersham bind, and is trimmed with blue and black soft feather pads.

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# Spectator Model





(Left) Gentian and edelweiss. Marshall and Snelgrove

(Below) Antique brooches; three of a large collection from Debenham and Freebody. A pinchbeck cameo, coral grapes and pinchbeck leaves, and a gilt and turquoise coronet set on a chased gilt ring



coat. This was dyed a cocoa brown and was worn over a tubular woollen dress, beige checked in two browns. She was hatless, her fair hair beautifully dressed in a smooth roll. Her companion, in a plain black cloth coat, showed a V of coral-coloured sweater and had a camellia to tone pinned on her lapel.

On a sunny day the first spring tailor-mades appeared and with them the first flashes of white—white snowdrops pinned on the lapel of a grey suit, a white shirt, a muffin hat the colour of brown toast, and matching pigskin gloves, shoes and bag.

\* \* \*

A WORD about hats, for they are changing in character and need watching. Perhaps the newest straws of all are the ones with largish crowns, real millinery hats as they are called in the trade, with birds poised on the crown or tiny mixed flowers massed all round. Bright veiling streams from the back of the flower hats and is folded round the throat. These are in fancy straws with the straw stitched on to a wire frame in the milliners' tradition of the early part of the century. Some speckled effects

her hair down. The postilion felts are definitely for an upward Edwardian coiffure. This feeling for larger brims and more important crowns is likely to keep the silhouette to a slim pencil, even if yardage restriction did not. It goes with the strong reaction towards Edwardian fripperies, or rather towards a modified war-time version of Edwardian fashions, which, without being too extreme, bring back some of their glamour.

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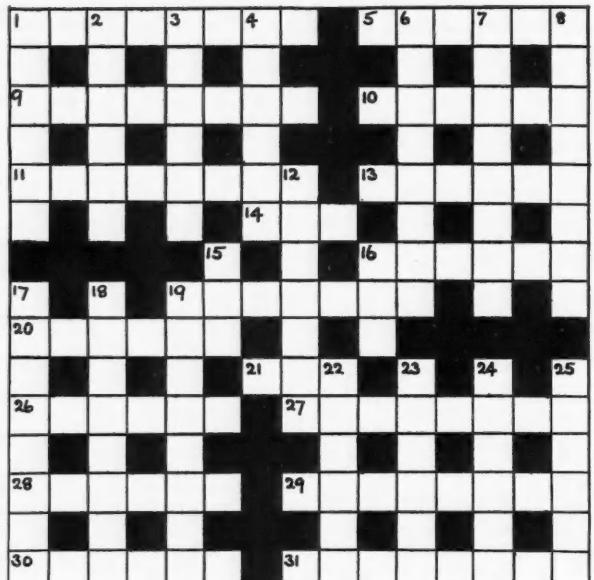
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## CROSSWORD No. 733

Two guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions (in a closed envelope) must reach "Crossword No. 733, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," not later than the first post on Thursday, February 17, 1944.

Note.—This competition does not apply to the United States.



Name .....  
(Mr., Mrs., etc.)  
Address .....

**SOLUTION TO No. 732.** The winner of this Crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of February 4, will be announced next week.

**ACROSS.**—1, From time to time; 9, Retract; 10, Arrange; 11, Idol; 12, Blank; 14, Bone; 17, Darned; 19, Bereft; 20, Rougher; 21, Naming; 23, Drudge; 25, Roll; 26, Essen; 29, Lass; 32, Intrude; 33, Replete; 34, Wars of the Roses. **DOWN.**—1, Forbidden fruit; 2, Outpour; 3, Thaw; 4, Metal; 5, Train; 6, Tort; 7, Manhole; 8, Relentlessness; 13, Air-guns; 15, Ferns; 16, Merry; 18, Dog; 19, Bed; 22, Militia; 24, Drapers; 27, Shelf; 28, Earth; 30, Puss; 31, Spar.

in straws are very smart. Among the small straws are round muffin-shaped hats tied on under the chin with broad satin ribbons. Dining-out hats are worn well forward, are shallow little affairs in shining coarse straw with a mass of striped taffeta ribbon bows at the back or bows of lace and tulle reaching almost to the nape of the neck and brims curling up slightly.

The felts with straight postilion crowns look crisp with a suit. They are made to be worn straight and well forward. Some have quite high crowns with tulle swathed round the brim. Scott show one of these in nut brown or black with a matching veil and a brim bound with grosgrain ribbon. Another, a rose-beige felt, has a lower crown dented and caught in the middle with black stitching. The brim bends up, is bound with black corded ribbon, the crown banded with more ribbon. Erik are showing a large-brimmed felt, almost a cartwheel, dipping in front, made in vivid shades—erald or cherry red or mustard yellow. This has quite a high crown and is a very becoming hat for the woman who wears

### ACROSS.

1. May we say that Bentley invented his own second name? (8)
5. Pluto in Greece is ill in France! (6)
9. Sometimes the present puts up with a lot for their sake (3, 5)
10. On thin ice, maybe, but these fish won't be found there (6)
11. Though she may have bells on her toes, these do not go on her fingers (3, 5)
13. The man who camouflages the iron hand? (6)
14. Lightly blended tea for consumption, perhaps (3)
16. Affirms (6)
19. It looks as if the bounder exists no more, but actually they're on the links (7)
20. Joseph's youngest brother is grown-up at Westminster (3, 3)
21. Yesterday and to-morrow, but never to-day? (3)
26. Resplendent (6)
27. Neither red nor riding, but maidenly nevertheless (8)
28. I'm there with us, and it's all bias! (6)
29. Unspecific term for Jack Horner's dish? (5, 3)
30. Makes an effort to write them, perhaps (6)
31. Emblems of Neptune's family (8)

### DOWN.

1. "It's all my foot!" the devil might cry (6)
2. Last, with last first (6)
3. Containing iridium (6)
4. Come up (6)
6. Do they stain the schoolboy's 'scutcheon'? (3, 5)
7. See a tit move! (8)
8. That of summer was left blooming alone (4, 4)
12. Ballast for a balloon, but not the barrage one (7)
15. "I am a —; I count nothing human indifferent to me."—Terence (3)
16. Realm of 31? (3)
17. Goat and bear in some confusion (8)
18. Offices (8)
19. The flower is a century old, it seems, and partly human, partly equine! (8)
22. Snow White's mentor (6)
23. United, though all die (6)
24. One certainly puts pomp on with this top knot (6)
25. Calculating serpents, aren't they? (6)

The winner of Crossword No. 731 is

Mr. H. A. Brooks,  
75, Uphill Road,  
London, N.W.7.

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stepping  
out this  
year**

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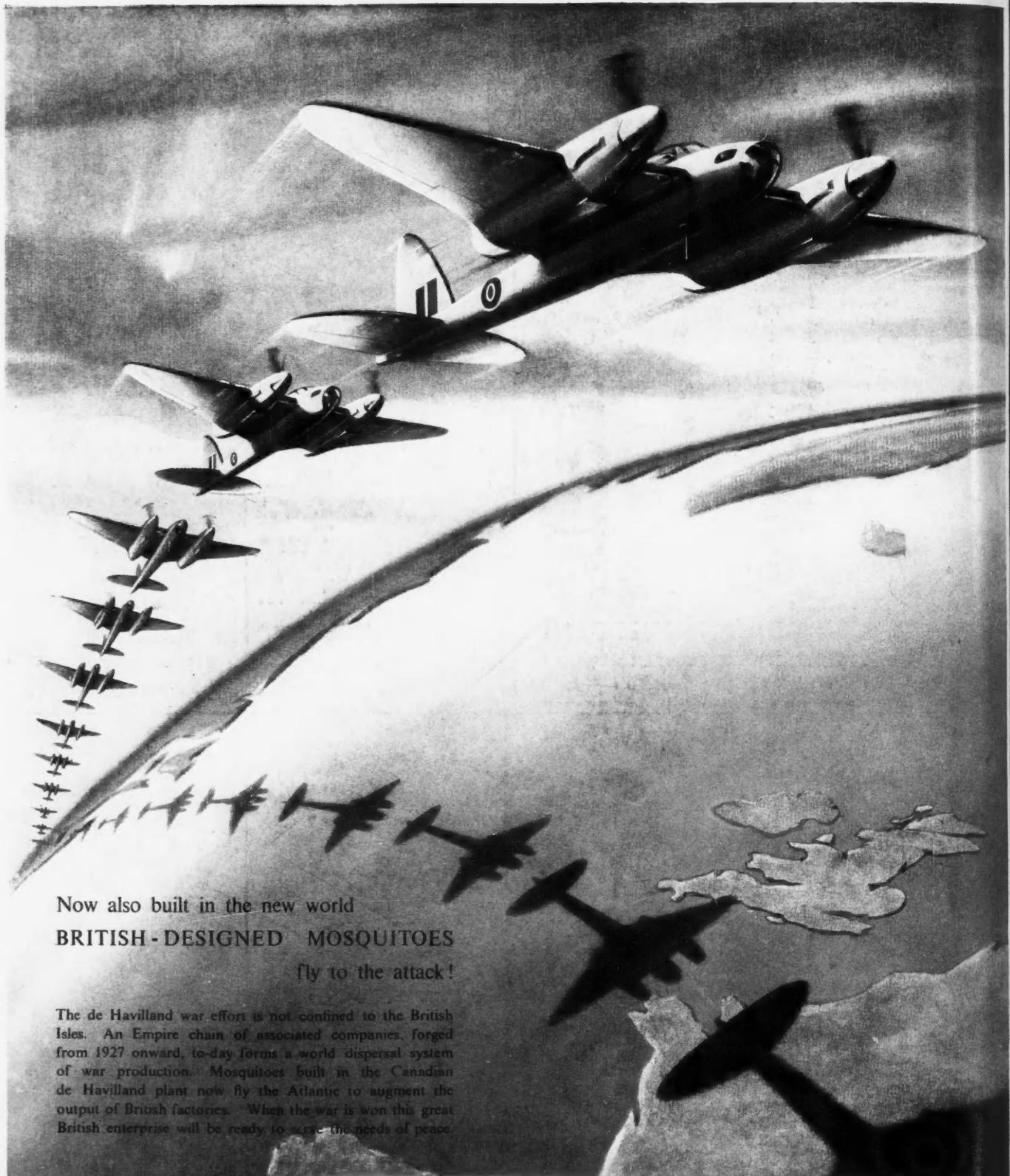
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